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Death of Picket Law Cuts Shackle off S. F. Labor

Western Worker

PEOPLE'S CHAMPION OF LIBERTY, PROGRESS AND PEACE

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CIO DRIVE

In Oil, Textile Opened Up
STRIKE WAVE GROWING
Douglas Strike Is Won



When Fascists Take a Town

RUTHLESS DESTRUCTION and murder is the order of the day when the Fascists enter a Spanish town. This photo shows what Spanish, Italian and Nazi Fascists did to Malaga when they captured that city.

Untold Misery In Relief Cuts

Pomeroy's "Sharp Limitations" Are Causing Widespread Suffering in California

LOS ANGELES—Willing servant of the vested interests in California, as typified by the Chamber of Commerce, the M. and M. and the Associated Farmers, the State Relief Administration with ruthless cruelty has thrown thousands of needy unemployed workers onto the streets.

Drastic Cuts

In line with instructions issued February 25, by arrogant State Relief Administrator Harold E. Pomeroy, all WPA cases receiving supplementary aid have been closed; all Federal Transients have been dropped from relief rolls; all families with members eligible for State Aid for children have been closed; all unattached persons under 18 have been shunted onto the streets; and all persons over 65 apparently eligible for Aged Aid have been kicked off the rolls.

Pomeroy declared in his confidential instructions, which reached all Social Service Directors in the State:

"The Relief Administration budget will be exhausted before June 30 unless sharp limitations are placed upon the activities of the Administration."

Today, Pomeroy's "sharp limitations" are causing untold misery to thousands of penniless and homeless persons.

JOHNSON IN L. A. GOES ON BALLOT

Spike Attempt to Keep Him Off in Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES—Blocking the attempts of corrupt reactionary interests to keep famed labor attorney Grover Johnson off the ballot as candidate for City Council in the 13th District, the District Court of Appeals, Division 1, last Tuesday ordered City Clerk Dominguez to place Johnson's name on the ballot.

Johnson had secured a writ of mandamus after Dominguez

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 6)

Tehama Farmers In Dire Straits

GERBER (Tehama County)—Tehama county sheep, cattle and dairy farmers have taken big losses and are suffering serious hardships as a result of cold weather and dryness of the winter period.

County farm advisor Don Smith reports a loss of $200,000 for small farmers. Small farmers have especially been hit by loss of dry feed, destroyed by rain.

FARMERS BACK COURT PLAN

WASHINGTON—Fifteen Midwest farm leaders conferred here with President Roosevelt, and then announced support of legislation curbing the Supreme Court.

UNION-HATING WILEY AGAIN ON MARINE BOARD

Kennedy and Admiral Land Appointed by F. D.

WASHINGTON — President Roosevelt has appointed the permanent five-man Maritime Commission, and it still contains two anti-labor minded admirals.

A hold-over from the former temporary commission is Admiral Henry A. Wiley.

In commenting on the new commission, Harry Bridges in San Francisco said: "I hope the commission does not follow the policies of Rear Admiral Henry A. Wley, who supported the employers in fostering company unions and opposed unions for licensed officers."

Joseph B. Kennedy, of New York, who was chairman of the Federal Securities Commission, heads the new Maritime Commission. Kennedy's record on the Securities Commission was reactionary.

Other members besides Kennedy and Wiley:

Rear Admiral Emory S. Land, for a 6-year term.

Edward C. Moran, Jr., former Maine Democratic congressman, 5-year term.

T. M. Woodward of Pennsylvania, for 3 years.

Kennedy will serve 2 years. He owns 110 shares of Todd Shipyard stock.

Suit Vs. Sta. Rosa Vigilantes Tried

SACRAMENTO—Attorneys for Silva W.A. Green in his $25,000 suit against Fred M. Cairns, leader of a Santa Rosa tar and feather mob, closed their case on Wednesday.

Cairns led the vigilantes who kidnaped Green and Sol Mitzberg in 1935, because of their militant labor activities.

Nitzberg, witness for Green, described the actions of the mob. He said that the vigilantes, who forced him to kiss the American flag, weren't fit to have that flag.

Cairn's attorney tried to make it seem that Communists insult the American flag. Nitzburg told the court that the flag "was born of revolution, the symbol of liberty which the Communist Party is striving for at the present time. They are the 20th century Americans."

Copeland Change Passed by House

WASHINGTON — Unanimous approval has been given the change in the Copeland Act by the House Merchant Marine Committee, and the House has passed it.

Under the new measure, the carrying of continuous discharge books is optional. Seamen may, if they prefer, carry certificates which contain only indentification marks, no entries of record.

Can You Answer These?

1—What was the Russian-American Company?

2—Who fought the Battle of San Diego, and when was it fought?

3—Who was the first American to reach California by the overland route?

4—Who was the first governor of California after it attained statehood?

5—What was the Gadsden Purchase?

(Turn to Page 2)

MADRID FIGHTS NEW DRIVE OF ITALIAN ARMY

German Plane Bombs French Freighter Off Algeria

MADRID—Defenders of Madrid prepared to thrust back the most powerful onslaught of Italian troops yet to be hurled against the Spanish Fascist insurrection begun last August.

More than 21,000 troops, heavily mechanized with German artillery and tanks, were moving toward Madrid from the northeast.

Practically all semblance of a "Spanish" front, save the nominal leadership of the traitor General Francisco Franco, has disappeared from the military campaign of Italian and German Fascism to destroy the elected government of the Spanish people and to place the country completely under the rule of Italian and German militarism.

The prisoner said further that he arrived on the Italian transport Lombardia with nearly 5000 other Italians. Escorting it and another Italian transport landing at Cadiz was the Italian warship Armando Diaz.

MARSEILLES, France — A German Junker plane bombed and machine-gunned the French steamship Djebel-Antar between North Africa and the Balearic Islands, while a Spanish insur-

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

F.D.R. RAPS FOES OF COURT CURB

Says Social Legislation Depends on His Plan

WASHINGTON—Foes of curbing the Supreme Court's usurped power to nullify social legislation, were flayed by President Roosevelt in a national radio address last Tuesday, as he spoke for his plan of appointing new justices to the court for every justice who did not retire at the age of 70, up to a total of 16 justices.

"I want to talk with you very simply about the need for present action in this crisis—the need to meet the unanswered challenge of one-third of a nation ill-nourished, ill-clad, ill-housed," declared Roosevelt.

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 8)

"Gifts" Protected Utilities Profits

SACRAMENTO — How huge public utility corporations fight to protect their profits by "gifts" of large sums of money to political groups, "goodwill organizations," chambers of commerce, etc., was exposed in startling detail in a report on file with the State Legislature from the

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 7)

Set Big Lumber Strike

75,000 Due To Go Cut Monday Unless Pay Boost Comes

PORTLAND — Lumber workers' union leaders are in this city for conferences on the Lumber and Sawmill Workers' Union demand for a 10 per cent wage increase.

If the conferences are unsuccessful, Kenneth Davis of the Puget Sound Council of the union said, then 60,000 workers in Washington and 15,000 in Oregon will hit the picket line Monday. Every union local has voted to strike if the wage increase is not granted.

It would be the largest strike of lumber workers yet known. The strike would quickly spread to California.

Seven Seattle saw mills are at present on strike.

C. P. SUPPORTS LABOR NOMINEE

Withdraws Own Candidate In L. A. Councilmanic Race

LOS ANGELES—Emphasizing the value of unity of all labor and progressive forces for independent political action, the Hollywood Section, Communist Party, has issued a statement explaining withdrawal of Emil Freed, councilmanic candidate:

"Mr. Henry J. Alberti of the Musicians' Union, local 147, has been endorsed by the joint executive board of the Central Labor Council and the progressive and liberal forces as candidate in the Second Councilmanic District.

"Mr. Alberti is running on a platform worked out by these groups. Although his platform does no go as far as one which would be proposed by a candidate put forth by our Party, we feel however that this platform expresses the immediate needs of labor and the people at large in the Second Councilmanic District.

"In the interests of maintaining and extending this unity, our Party has withdrawn its own candidate Comrade Freed, in this District. We will give our support to Mr. Alberti in this campaign and call upon the people of this community to add their energy in bringing his campaign in the Second Councilmanic District to a successful conclusion."

Oroville to Vote Municipal Power

OROVILLE, Butler County—The same power interests which fought the issue in San Francisco are fighting the amendment for revenue bonds for municipal power, on which Oroville citizens will vote April 12.

SANTA MONICA ADDED TO CIO TRIUMPH LIST

Recognition of The United Auto Union Is Conceded

SANTA MONICA — Another big CIO victory!

The 3000 Douglas Aircraft strikers have won their 18-day strike, led by the United Automobile Workers' Union. Douglas Aircraft has agreed to grant that CIO union recognition, and to arbitrate any other issues not yet agreed on.

President Donald Douglas of the aircraft company hurriedly made up his mind to grant recognition as he saw another picket line of over 1000 workers outside his plant on Thursday.

Douglas at first refused to take back any of the indicted 350 sit-down strikers, but later agreed to take back all but 38 at once, and to settle the question of the 38 later.

Northrup, a Douglas subsidiary, recognized the CIO union last week.

A 15 cents an hour pay increase is among the demands to be arbitrated. Meanwhile a 5 per cent increase, forced by the strike, holds good.

Under consideration by Superior Court Judge Emmet Wilson were demurrers, against the vicious indictments preferred by District Attorney Pitts, filed Tuesday, by union attorney John C. Packard.

BILL FOR C. S. REPEAL SOON UP

Urge Wires and Letters for Prisoners' Release

Assembly Bill 311, for repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act, will come before the Crime Problems Committee of the Assembly early in April. The hearing will be public and calls are being sent to California organizations to elect delegates to join a bus and auto caravan that will go to Sacramento the evening the hearing is held. The call is being sent by the California Conference for Repeal of the Criminal Syndicalist Act.

At Approximately the same the Third District Court of Appeals, Sacramento, will hear the appeal of the Sacramento defendants. A committee from the delegation will visit the governor and demand immediate, unconditional release of the prisoners.

Demand Reversal

The conference urges that cards, letters and telegrams be sent to the clerk of the Third District Court of Appeals, Sacramento, calling for a reversal of the trial verdict and freedom of the prisoners.

Assembly Bill 311, for repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act, has been referred to the Crime Problems Committee, one of the most reactionary committees in

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 3)

A Brass Tacks Organizing Drive



HEADQUARTERS of a new Intl. Ladies' Garment Workers' local is a busy place, with that CIO union conducting an intensive drive to add several hundred thousand more workers to its ranks. Scene is in a Pennsylvania town.

The Unity of Labor

(Statement by Central Committee, Communist Party, U. S. A.)
(Special to the Western Worker)

The fight for unity continues the foremost task of all trade union members. The new developments in the labor movement must be taken into account. First among these is the great achievement of the CIO among the auto, steel and other workers and the general tendency of the unorganized in other industries to organize under the banner of the CIO.

This demands in many cases an adjustment of policy as exemplified by the Douglas workers deciding to go with the CIO.

Second, we must take into account the further development of the strikebreaking and splitting activity of the AFL executive council as shown in the auto strike, in the Frey conference with the Carnegie-Illinois Steel company union agents, directed against the CIO, and finally Green's order to expel the CIO unions from the Central Labor Councils and State Federations.

The capitalist press tries to create the impression that John L. Lewis is taking the initiative in building a new Federation of Labor.

This should be exposed by showing that the decision of the last CIO conference on Tuesday calls only for the setting up of central bodies where the CIO forces are ousted.

Every trade unionist must continue the fight against expulsions, for maintaining the unity of the central bodies, and for support of all unions and central bodies to the organizing campaigns of the CIO, because all this means strengthening the trade union movement.

Only through quick action of the rank and file, especially in the craft unions, and simultaneous support of the CIO organizing campaigns can unity of the AFL be reestablished.

S.F. Labor Hails Picket Law Death

SAN FRANCISCO—Labor and the people swept the 20-year-old anti-picketing ordinance off the city's books by a vote of 77,421 to 68, 249 in last Tuesday's balloting.

"The voters of San Fancisco by repealing this ordinance have shown themselves in favor of picketing, which prevents violence and advertises those firms and empoyers which are unfair to labor," declared Harry Bridges, Pacific Coast ILA head and president of Maritime Federation of the Pacific, District 2.

"The three-month demonstration of peaceful pickeing the waterfront passed through, is an example of the contention of

(Continued on Page 4)

CP Hails Repeal of SF Picket Act

Hailing the San Francisco voters' mandate to repeal the 20-year-old anti-picket ordinance, the San Francisco County Committee of the Communist Party stated the labor victory was due largely to the progressives' push in the campaign. The statement follows:

(Statement by San Francisco County Committee, Communist Party)

The repeal of San Francisco's twenty-year-old anti-picketing ordinance is a significant and

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 4)

The Strike Wave-Coast to Coast

California labor played a leading part in strike struggle developments of the past few days.

Two ILA Warehousemen's Union pickets and two plain clothes policemen were injured and a score of others were hurt, when cops attacked pickets at the California Packing Corporation in Alameda in the Bay Region's worst outbreak of police terror since the 1934 strike.

One of the police, beaten by officers who mistook him for a striker, is expected to die.

Tear gas hurled by police covered the whole neighborhood and brought a flood of complaints of residents whose homes it penetrated. At least one child was known to be seriously affected. Marks of tear gas bombs roughened the smooth cement surface of sidewalks.

The motorcycle of a state patrolman was wrecked where he parked it in the middle of a street to direct the attack of private police against the strikers.

The battle was started when

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 5)

MORE COUNCILS REJECT BILL GREEN LETTER

Sta. Clara, Stockton Turn Down Letter From Green

WASHINGTON — William Green on Thursday definitely ordered all CIO unions expelled from state federations and central labor bodies. Many such bodies have already indicated they will refuse to carry out such an order.

Additional California Central Labor Councils to reject the letter of William Green which amounted to a CIO expulsion order are those of Santa Clara County and Stockton.

The San Francisco, Kern County, Sacramento, Alameda County Councils had already taken similar actions.

The CIO has set up a new office in California, that in Nevada City, Nevada County. The Nevada County office will be headquarters for the drive to organize the gold miners of the Nevada County area into Twin Cities Local 283, Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union.

(Further details of the vigilantes' activities in that area are given on page 3. The Alameda County Central Labor Council scored the Nevada County vigilantes threats against the CIO.)

The CIO executives' meeting of Tuesday this week, did not set up a new federation of

(Continued on Page 4)

MOONEY PARDON GOES TO SENATE

Pressure Brings About Assembly Approval

SACRAMENTO—The Assembly's 45 to 28 vote for a full and complete pardon to Tom Mooney came despite rulings by Attorney General Webb and the State Legislative Counsel Wood that the legislature has no power to grant the pardon. The majority of Assemblymen do not agree that they lack the power.

The Assembly's action comes as a result of the recently intensified organized labor campaign for Mooney, expressed in setting up of local AFL committees and holding of conferences in most California cities.

The resolution for Mooney's pardon now goes to the Senate. Fight for the pasage of the resolution was led by Assemblyman Richie of San Diego and Maloney of San Francisco. All San Francisco Assemblymen voted for the resolution.

25 Years Ago—1912

MARCH 16

CONSTANTINOPLE—Six hundred perish in Russian slaughters in Northern Persia.

LOS ANGELES—Trial of Clarence Darrow on "jury bribing" charges in McNamara case is set for May 14.

MARCH 17

SAN FRANCISCO — Central Labor Council passes resolution protesting police attack on Socialist meeting in Oakland.

MARCH 18

OAKLAND—500 at mass meeting called by Socialist Party pass resolution demanding recall of Oakland city administration or graft.

BOSTON—150,000 New England cotton and woolen mill workers get wage increase of 5 per cent and up, as result of Lawrence woolen strike.

MARCH 19

BERLIN—350,000 Westphalian coal miners go out on strike.

Western Worker Drive

Appreciation on S. F. Results

THE San Francisco County Committee of the Communist Party hails the successful reaching of the quota of $3,000—our part of the Western Worker and Daily Worker Drive.

On this occasion we extend hearty congratulations to all Party members and friends of the Party whose work and contributions in the drive and the bazaar made this fine achievement possible.

The fact that our quota was reached on the scheduled time attests to the growing vitality of our organization and its growing capacity for vigorous response to our Party's campaigns and appeals. It is the same responsiveness that made possible our successful conclusion of the Browder-Ford Membership Drive, which doubled our San Francisco membership within the time of the drive.

Space does not permit the listing of all the Party and friendly organizations as well as individuals whose work inspired all of us and spurred us to reach our goal. Some of them, however, must be mentioned in consideration of their outstanding achievements.

Among these are: the 23rd Assembly Branch of the Communist Party, which made an all-around record, more than tripling their quota; the Culinary Unit, who so skillfully and efficiently ran the bazaar restaurant; the Needle Trades Unit, whose handmade goods were a sensation at the bazaar and added a goodly

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

L. A. CARPENTERS LOCAL GIVES ITS ENDORSEMENT TO STRIKE AT AIRCRAFT PLANTS, LED BY CIO

Reprimand Delegates to Labor Council Who Did Not Vote to Support Douglas and Northrup Aircraft Strikers

LOS ANGELES—The Carpenters' Union, local 25, representing 1500 men, have unanimously voted to indorse the strikers of the Douglas and Northrup Aircraft Plants.

The discussion on the motion was long and heated. Because, the delegates of local 25 had just reported the Carpenters' District Council and the Central Labor Council had tabled similar motions.

Local members questioned the delegates as to how they themselves had voted on the motion. Hence the members charged the delegates with not representing the will of the membership. Therefore the motion as passed by local 25 in reality was a reprimand and future instruction to their delegates.

The discussion brought out the fact that Buzzell and his AFL organizers after five weeks of effort to organize the aircraft workers into craft unions, lost out to the industrial union organizers of the CIO.

Therein lies the reactionary reason why the top leadership is trying to silence any efforts of the rank and file members to voice their opinion on the present aircraft strike.

District Attorney Fitts, for his vicious indictments against the 342 strikers, was also caustically condemned by many of the Local 25 members.

ALLIANCE AIDS DOUGLAS MEN'S RELIEF FIGHT

Tyrant Young Doesn't Seem to Read Newspapers

LOS ANGELES — Following the same tactics it used during the maritime strike, the Los Angeles County Relief Administration is playing the role of strike-breaker by refusing to give relief aid to the Douglas Aircraft strikers.

Doesn't Read Papers

At a meeting of the citizen's relief committee the committee voted to conduct an investigation to "determine" whether or not there is a strike at the Douglas Aircraft plant.

Archibald Young, soft-voiced, tyrant-like chairman of the committee, declared: "We have been informed by Douglas officials that the strikers can go back to work. As a matter of fact, I don't know that there is a strike at Douglas."

Accompanying the committee of 50 aircraft strikers, headed by Ken Hunter, who demanded relief from the committee and charged that the administration is trying to "force workers to starve or scab," was a committee from the Workers' Alliance, headed by Loretta Adams, assistant organizer for the county.

Mrs. Adams, who was active in securing relief for single strikers during the maritime strike, pledged the active cooperation of the Workers' Alliance in the aircraft strikers' efforts to obtain their rightful relief.

Marine Labor Not Sorry Weaver Out

WASHINGTON — Joseph B. Weaver is out as Director of the U. S. Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation.

The labor-hating director's resignation will take effect at the end of a two-months' leave. It followed a quarrel with Asst. Secretary of Commerce J. Monroe Jackson.

Weaven, proven to have accepted numerous favors from shipowners, was one of the main forces behind the Copeland fink book. He repeatedly expressed enmity to maritime unions.

San Mateo Council For Court Change

SAN MATEO—The San Mateo Central Labor Council has endorsed the proposed changes in the Supreme Court.

The council defeated by two votes last Monday, the resolution protesting the arrests of the 345 Douglas Aircraft sit-downers in Santa Monica, and condemning District Attorney Buron Fitts for his actions in the arrests.

The defeat came as a result of the treacherous statements of Secretary Al Randall and Crown of the Electricians, who claimed sitdown strikes are illegal. Randall shed tears at the workers "gall" in remaining on company property.

A resolution requesting the State Federation to grant a state agricultural charter on the basis of the program adopted at the recent State Federation sponsored conference was referred to the executive committee.

Madrid Fighting New Hordes

(Continued from Page 1)

gent trawler, in French waters near Brest, fired on a Spanish freighter.

French authorities immediately dispatched four cruisers to protect Mediterranean sea routes and to protect French waters from the Fascists growing more and more provocative in their attempts to capture Spain.

S.F. AND WESTERN WORKER DRIVE

(Continued from Page 1)

sum of money; the Professional Section, which fulfilled its own quota, and has generously accepted a part of the Waterfront Section's quota—a condition growing out of the Maritime Strike.

One of the weaknesses in the drive was our inability to develop sufficient competition in the sale of the March 6 tickets, a condition which lowered the sale of same, thus compelling us to wind up the drive with a bazaar—an affair that generally takes our time and resources. While we failed to develop a sufficient corps of ticket-sellers as pace-setters, none the less several comrades did remarkably fine work in this phase. We therefore extend to them our hearty thanks.

We take this opportunity to congratulate Comrade Friedman, a militant trade union man and a grizzled veteran in the revolutionary movement, who as a result of his work in the drive will take a round trip to the Soviet Union. Comrade Friedman is now preparing to leave and spend May Day on the Moscow Red Square. We wish him bon voyage and good luck.

We will celebrate the successful reaching of our quota on Saturday night, March 20, at 121 Haight Street, at which time we will give the winner of the trip our comradely send-off and will render a full report on the drive to all assembled friends.

In reaching our quota, we are confident that our achievement will inspire all those Party organizations who have yet to reach theirs. We take our hats off to those sections who finished theirs ahead of us. All of us thus have given in the drive for our beloved Western and Daily Worker the best of our efforts and energies. We are within reach of the goal to assure the uninterrupted existence of our fighting organs in the ensuing year.

For the San Francisco organization it is imperative to finish our job properly, and this requires the immediate settlement by all branches and units and individual comrades for all moneys outstanding for tickets, program ads, and any other moneys due.

Our next job is to build the paid circulation of the Western Worker, and thereby strengthen it yet further. The finished drive paved the way.

Long live our Daily Worker and Western Worker, powerful fighters for the liberty, peace and prosperity of America's laboring folk!

SAN FRANCISCO COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY.

NOVELIST FLYER



FAMOUS FRENCH author, Andre Malraux, leader of an international squadron fighting for Spanish democracy. He is now in this country on a tour in behalf of Spanish democracy.

S.F. POLITICIANS ENDANGER FOOD TO ILL CHILDREN

Bureaucracy May Tie Up School Meals

SAN FRANCISCO—Because of a bureaucratic dispute as to what department is to pay the bill, 2000 San Francisco school children inclined to ill-health may find themselves without the meals they have been getting in classes.

The dispute came as a result of the cutting of $5000 from the new Health Dept. budget by Chief Administrator A. J. Cleary.

Cleary argues that the School Dept. should pay for the meals. The Board of Education claims that the law forbids spending of school funds for free lunches to needy children.

Charge Assembly Committee Packed

SACRAMENTO—Speaker William Mosley Jones, McAdoo Democrat of Los Angeles, "stacked" the Assembly's public utilities committee against public ownership advocates, charged Assemblyman Ellis E. Patterson of King City, last Monday.

The Assembly defeated Patterson's move to override the utilities committee and bring to the floor a resolution providing $10,000 for a legislative committee to investigate political activities of public utilities, by a 56-14 vote.

A resolution by Assemblyman Samuel Yorty, Los Angeles, to establish what stockholders held controlling interest in privately-owned utility corporations, was also defeated.

Bill for C.S. Act Repeal Up Soon

(Continued from Page 1)

the State Assembly. The following compose the committee: Paul A. Richie, 79 District, San Diego, Chairman, liberal and the only member of the committee who voted in 1935 to repeal the C.S. Act; Henry A. Dannenbrink, 18th District, a new member of the Assembly and the four following, all of whom voted against the repeal in 1935:

Gardiner Johnson, 19th District, Berkeley; Jefferson E. Peyser, 27th District, San Francisco; Eleanor Miller, 47th District, Pasadena; Clarence R. Walker, 77th District, Westmoreland.

To these last named four Assemblymen, a letter has been sent by the California Conference for Repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act, calling upon them to support the above measure and to vote to send it to the assembly with a "do pass" recommendation. Friends of repeal are urged to send similar letters to one or all of them.

The Marin County Central Labor Council has contributed $10 for the freedom of the C. S. prisoners.

Soviet Armenia Film To Be Shown Sunday

SAN FRANCISCO—A Soviet Armenian picture, for one showing only, will be given here Sunday morning, March 14, 11 o'clock, at Alhambra Theater, Green and Polk Streets. English sub-titles translate the conversation. Admission is 40 cents. The showing is sponsored by the Friends of Soviet Armenia.

WOMEN LEAD STRIKE

SHANGHAI, China—Workers of the famous Zoong Shing Cotton Mill have declared a strike over a dispute of wages.

TRIGGS OFF TO BAD START IN LA RELIEF JOB

Says He Will Not Do Anything for 1500 Dropped by SERA

LOS ANGELES—A bad start was made by Clayton E. Triggs as he took over the job of county relief administrator, when he declared that his office would do nothing to help the 1500 aged and so-called unemployable persons dropped from county SERA rolls.

"I think they are legally the county's responsibility," he said. "When we had plenty of funds we could afford to be more liberal, but our liberal policies must stop now. Nor do I feel I could ask the Legislature for emergency funds in view of the fact that these persons are not our legal responsibility."

Meanwhile, the 1500 needy persons have been left to face starvation and County Superintendent of Charities, Rex Thomson, has declared that the Charities Department can do nothing for them.

CP Hails Repeal of SF Picket Act

(Continued from Page 1)

tremendous victory for the progressive labor movement and the people as a whole.

It was due mainly to the pushing of the campaign by the progressive forces that the issue was placed before the people. It was the energetic work of the American League Against War and Fascism that succeeded in first placing the matter before the Welfare Committee of the Board of Supervisors. It was the delegates of the Warehousemen's Union to the Central Labor Council who stimulated the interest of all progressive trade unionists in launching a fight to repeal the ordinance at the time a number of warehouse pickets were arrested in their organizational drive.

Pressure of Rank and File

It was the pressure of the rank and file in the trade unions that shook some of the lukewarmness out of the conservative labor leaders on the question of starting a vigorous campaign for repeal.

It was the constructive, and at times sharp criticism of the Communist Party that helped guide the activities of the trade union conference in the repeal campaign, and even prodded certain responsible leaders of the Committee of 25 to push the campaign more energetically.

History was made also in the effective role played by the Citizens' Committee, which aided the trade union movement immeasurably in bringing the issues before the people and exposing the distortions of the so-called Civic Welfare League, the creature of the Chamber of Commerce.

The victory of labor and progressive forces in securing the repeal of the anti-picketing ordinance is significant in that it points out the road labor must take in order to protect its interests politically as well as economically.

It is clear now that ALL anti-labor legislation—such as the criminal syndicalism law—can be repealed by organized labor and its progressive allies.

The greatest lesson contained in the repeal victory is that it points out what organized labor can do in the coming municipal elections.

If the anti-picketing ordinance can be repealed by the work of organized labor and its progressive allies, THE SAME SORT OF CAMPAIGN CAN ELECT PROGRESSIVS PEOPLE'S REPRESENTATIVES TO OFFICE ON A MINIMUM PLATFORM BASED ON THE INTERESTS OF THE LABOR MOVEMENT AND THE PEOPLE GENERALLY!

We urge that steps be taken to nominate and elect candidates on such a platform to fill the vacancies which will be voted on this fall in San Francisco.

This would be a tremendous stride forward in the building of a Farmer-Labor Party throughout the state, to defeat the reactionary, open-shop interests.

The repeal of the anti-picketing ordinance shows what can be done. Now is the time to take steps to do it.

WAGE DEMANDS

NEW YORK—The CIO United Electrical and Radio Workers' Union, about to negotiate with General Electric, includes a 10 per cent wage increase.

INDIA UNREST

RAWAL PINDA, India—Thousands of British troops were dispatched to the Northwest to put down Mohammedan revolt.

How Many Did You Answer?

1—An association of Russian merchants who first entered the Pacific Coast and California fur trade, and held a monopoly for a time in the late 18th century.

2—It was a bloodless battle between the Spaniards and a group of Americans under Shaler and Cleveland, who engaged in contraband trading. The battle occurred on March 22, 1802.

3—Jeredian Strong Smith, a fur trader from New York state, whose party reached California in November, 1826.

4—Peter H. Burnett, who served from 1849 to 1851. He was a Democrat.

5—The acquisition of 45,000 square miles of Mexican territory south of Arizona and New Mexico, in 1845, to provide completion of a railroad to the Pacific Coast.

Simpson Meeting Being Arranged

SAN FRANCISCO — Unions and other organizations are asked to send delegates to the Provisional Committee to arrange the April 7 Dreamland Auditorium meeting for Lawrence Simpson, Sailors' Union of the Pacific member who was a prisoner for 18 months in a Hitler concentration camp.

The committee first met last Monday with delegates from 20 unions and other groups, and will meet again next Monday, March 15, 7:30 p.m., at 268 Market St., Room 129, assembly hall of the American Telegraphists Assn. Call to the committee was jointly issued by the District Federation of the Pacific, and the International Labor Defense, Northern California District.

The Strike Wave-Coast to Coast

(Continued from Page 1)

30 autos loaded with strikebreakers attempted to break through picket lines and leave the plant.

Pickets sustaining the worse injuries were Manuel Relva, 50, who suffered a lacerated scalp and fractured arm; Edward Burns, 18, who received a possible skull fracture; and Henry Good, lacerated scalp and fractured arm.

The Alameda County Central Labor Council voted this week to place the National Automotive Bearing on its unfair list. This is the concern which locked out CIO Auto Workers' Union members.

Fearing a strike like the plague, Yellow Cab Co. in San Francisco finally decided to grant taxi union members a $5 a day scale, averting a strike scheduled to start last Wednesday.

Adding to the strike of 2500 Chicago taxi workers and drivers 450 men in the Chicago Terminal underground lines began a sit-down strike this week.

The strike of 2500 Bethlehem steel workers in Lebanon, Pa., for CIO recognition, and the strike of 75,000 Chrysler, General Motors and Hudson auto workers in Detroit and Flint continued solid, as did the strike of close to 10,000 Akron rubber workers.

The Reo Motor Car works in Lansing, Mich, have been tied up by a sit-down strike of 1000 United Auto Workers' Union members.

General Motors plants in St. Louis have been closed by a strike of several thousand CIO Auto Workers' Union members.

A strike of 1500 Electric employees in St. Louis started the CIO drive in that area to organize the industry for the United Electric and Radio Workers' Union.

In San Francisco the 170-day Kroehler Furniture Strike of 150 men ended with wage increases and a week's vacation with pay.

Miami, Fla., printers are in a sit-down strike.

'No Cessation of Chinese Unity'

NANKING—"There will be no cessation in the formation of a united Chinese front to resist Japanese aggression in North China and elsewhere."

This announcement came in answer to the announcement by Japanese Foreign Minister Sato of "peaceful" intentions toward China. It was made by a spokesman of the Chinese Government.

When attention was called to the announcement that "Japan has no territorial designs on China," the Chinese spokesman asked: "What about Manchuria?"

Chinese officials indicated that "deeds and not words" will be considered as the basis for evaluating the announcement from Japan. At the same time, the Japanese statement was welcomed as an official assurance of Japan's policy.

ANNA LOUISE STRONG SPEAKS AT DREAMLAND

In S.F. March 18 To Tell of Democracy's Fight in Spain

SAN FRANCISCO — "Democracy or Fascism—What Does it Mean to America?" will be the subject of a meeting to be held at San Francisco's Dreamland Auditorium the night of Thursday, March 18th. Principal speaker will be Anna Louise Strong, American journalist and traveler just returned from battle-torn Spain.

To Tell of Spain

In her talk at Dreamland, Anna Louise Strong will speak on the worldwide struggle taking place today between the forces of Democracy and Fascism, with particular attention to the part played by the United States and its people.

"The same forces seeking to overthrow the popular Democratic government of Spain are at work here," Dr. Strong has said. 'Repressive laws aimed against labor, against the Bill of Rights of the American Constitution, are being pushed through State Legislatures'

"There is no civil war in Spain," declares this world-famed writer and observer. "Spain has been invaded by thousands of troops of the regular armies of Fascist Italy and Germany, acting under direct orders from the governments of these countries. The elected Democratic government of Spain is being attacked by Fascist countries seeking to delude their suffering populations with the false and bloody glories of conquest."

The March 18th meeting will be Anna Louise Strong's only appearance here this year. Affiliated to the American League Against War and Fascism, sponsor of the meeting, are a large number of trade unions and liberal organizations locally and throughout the country.

Grover Johnson To Be on L. A. Ballot

(Continued from Page 1)

disqualified him on March 2, when Mrs. Sally Egners signed an affidavit asking that the 115 signatures she had obtained for Johnson's petition of candidacy be invalidated.

Still Held by Kidnapers

Johnson charged Mrs. Egners had been intimidated by persons representing corrupt forces in the city administration who are determined to "keep a people's candidate off the ballot."

Mrs. Egners then disappeared, is believed kidnaped and held by these forces, and her whereabouts is still unknown.

Only candidate opposing Johnson in the 13th District is reactionary incumbent Darwin Tate, who has a strong political machine.

Kerr, Dominguez on Spot

Carefully avoiding the charges of fraud and duress made by Johnson, neither Kerr nor Dominguez was able to present to Appellate Judges Houser, Doran and York, any legal precedent against qualification of Johnson.

Their whole argument was based on the affidavit made by Mrs. Egners, which they refused to consider as made under intimidation.

Afraid to Hear Gallagher

Obviously trying to prevent Johnson's attorney, Leo Gallagher, world-famous labor attorney, from presenting his evidence of the political corruption working to keep Johnson off the ballot, the three judges made a hurried decision based on Section 1106, Political Code, (that a registration is effective up to and until the registration is cancelled) and ordered Dominguez to put Johnson's name on the ballot.

Fight is Won

Judge York three times asked counsel for Dominguez if Johnson had enough signatures to qualify as a candidate. Each time the answer was "yes." The judge then asked if Johnson would go on the ballot. The answer was necessarily "yes."

Successful in this fight, Johnson and his campaign supporters were to open headquarters immediately at Sutherland St. and Sunset Blvd.

Endorsed by many trade unionists, progressive and liberal groups throughout the city, Johnson will enter the election race committed to progressive political action to serve the best interests of the people of Los Angeles.

WOOL STRIKE WON

JAMESTOWN, N. Y. — The strike of 650 workers in the National Worsted Mill here, led by the United Textile Workers, was won, with 25 per cent wage increases granted.

Writers Attack Bias of New Book's Anti-Soviet Authors

Protest against the annuonced publication of a book entitled "I Cover the World" was voiced by the executive committee of the Western Writers' Congress in a telegram to Harcourt, Brace, publishers.

In the name of the executive committee the following telegram was sent by Harry Carlisle, executive secretary:

"Executive Committee Western Writers' Congress notes announcement "I Cover the World," edited by Eugene Lyons. Chaper on Russia by William Henry Chamberlain. Both notorious for anti-Soviet bias. We protest what must inevitably be distortion of true facts and will register protest publicly."

Havenner 'Fronts' For Bail Brokers

SAN FRANCISCO—Labor and progressive forces here wondered just how progressive Congressman Havenner, 4th District, really is, following news last Tuesday that Havenner had introduced two bills providing for return of forfeited federal bail to McDonough Brothers, bail bond brokers.

Pete McDonough figured prominently in the fiasco police graft investigation here.

Because two persons jumped bail, McDonough Brothers had $20,000 bail forfeited, and want it back on the ground one man was subsequently captured and convicted, and the other surrendered and pleaded guilty.

Havenner admitted he personally "knows little of the details."

He Got Off Light!

SAN MATEO—"They gave me hell," commented Sheriff James J McGrath, after a session with the San Mateo County grand jury, which announced a war against gambling "to start with the little ones, but rest assured we'll then go after the big ones."

Bribe-Taker Again Indicted

LOS ANGELES — Released March 2 last, after serving a term in San Quentin for taking an $80,000 bribe as a Los Angeles County Supervisor, Sidney T. Graves faced another indictment here, brought by the federal grand jury for income tax evasion in 1930, the year of the bribe payoff.

Graves was convicted of taking a bribe from contractors in connection with an $830,000 payment by the county on the original San Gabriel Canyon Dam, later abandoned.

"Gifts" Protect Utilities Profits

(Continued from Page 1)

California Railroad Commission.

Under "Direct contributions to political campaigns," was listed the Los Angeles Gas & Electric Corp.'s $45,000 to the "Municipal Light & Defense League" for a campaign against revenue bonds, which failed.

The Union Pacific Railway contributed $620.76, and the Market St. Railway Co. 620.76, to the "California Association Against Single Tax."

The commission's report listed Thomas M. Carlson as attorney for the State Water Authority and said he received $1300 from Southern Pacific and $450 from Pacific Gas & Electric.

Last Week Carlson told the Assembly utilities committee that passage of a resolution for investigating political activities of privately-owned utilities would injure the Central Valley Water Project. The resolution was tabled.

State Director of Public Works Kelly said Carlson was city attorney of Richmond ard associated with the Contra Costa Canal Co.

For Defense of Profits

Utilities gave chambers of commerec $179,552.21. The Southern Pacific gave the State Chamber $15,500, San Francisco Chamber $4680 and Los Angeles Chamber $6000. The S.F. Chamber took $5000 from the P.G.& E. and $3006 from Pacific Telephone & Telegraph.

Industrial Associations in San Francisco took $2200 from Atchison Topeka and Santa Fe Railway, $1620 from P.T.&T.; $1500, Southern Pacific; $800 S.P. Golden Gate Ferries; $1587, Market Street Railway, $560, Pacific Greyhound Lines; $1050 Western Pacific Railroad.

The report also revealed salaries paid utilities heads. A.D. McDonald receives $50,000 from Southern Pacific; J. B. Black, $60,000 from P.G.&E.; Samuel Kahn, $37,500 from Market St. Railway; H. D. Pillsbury, $41,632, and H. R. Powley, $41,632, from Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Co. and subsidiaries.

ST. PAUL—A series of wage gains after strikes has sent the membership of Petroleum Workers' Union 18281 up to 500

I. L. A. WINS BIG GAIN FOR NEGRO COMPRESS MEN

White - Negro Spirit of Solidarity Tells in Pedro

SAN PEDRO — Climaxing a splendid organizational drive, Negro cotton compress workers in the International Longshoremen's Association local 38-106, have won their first major victory with the Los Angeles Cotton Compress Company signing closed shop agreements with them.

Chief gains in the agreement are union recognition, $5-day minimum, an 8hour day, and time and a half for overtime.

Negro-White Solidarity

After an unsuccessful drive for organization conducted by A. H. Peterson, former ILA organizer, "Dutch" Dietrich, present International organizer for the longshoremen, started an organizational campaign during the recent 98-day maritime strike.

Mainly responsible for the great victory won by the Negro workers, was the thorough solidarity shown between the Negro and white workers during the strike. The strong support given the maritime workers by Negroes in Los Angeles also contributed greatly to winning their demands.

For years the cotton compress workers had been getting only 45 cents per hour as a minimum. Under the present agreement signed last week, the workers will receive a minimum of 62½ cents per hour.

Chester Lockard is president of Local 38-106.

F.R. Raps Foes of Curb on Court

(Continued from Page 1)

Without attacking them by name the President scored the Wall Street powers, the advocates of Fascism, as the chief enemies of curbing the "nine old men."

Flays Wall Streeters

"Two groups oppose my plan on the ground that they favor a constitution amendment," he said. "The first includes those who fundamentally object to social and economic legislation along modern lines. This is the same group who during the campaign last fall tried to block the mandate of the people.

"Now they are making a last stand. And the strategy of that stand is to suggest the time-consuming process of amendment in order to kill off by delay the legislation demanded by the people.

"To them I say—I do not think you will be able long to fool the American people as to your purposes."

Hearst, Morgan & Co.

This group includes, said Roosevelt, "a very large percentage of newspaper publishers, chamber of commerce, bar associations, manufacturers' associations."

To the other group, "of those who honestly believe the amendment process is the best and who would be willing to support a reasonable amendment, if they could agree on one," Roosevelt said:

"We cannot rely on an amedment as the immediate or only answer to our present difficulties. When the time comes for action, you will find that many of those who pretend to support you, wil sabotage any constructive amendment which is proposed. Look at these strange bed-fellows of yours. When before have you found them really at your side in your fights for progress?"

Roosevelt declared his plan would "save our national constitution from hardening of the judicial arteries."

He quoted opinions of dissenting justices in Supreme Court opinions, such as Justice Stone's statement on the New York minumum wage law invalidation, that the majority were actually reading into the constitution their own "personal economic predilections."

He also quoted Chief Justice Hughes' statement: "We are under a constitution but the constitution is what the judges say it is."

As in his speech the previous week, President Roosevelt based his appeal for support of his plan to curb the Supreme Court, on the immediate necessity of passing social and labor legislation, laws which would undoubtedly be invalidated by the arch-reactionary "nine old men" unless the court's autocratic powers were checked.

PEASANT DEMONSTRATION

SOOCHOW, China—A demonstration was staged by more than 1,000 peasants of the Lienmu village in Eastern Soochow against the payment of taxes.

Japan Announces 'Equality,' Seeks New Allies in China

L. A. HONORS COMMUNE OF PARIS MAR. 19

To Honor Heroes of Spain at L.A. Memorial

LOS ANGELES—In commemoration of the Paris Commune of 1871 and of the victims of Fascist invasion in Spain of 1937, a mass meeting will be held in the Cultural Center Friday, March 19, at 8 p. m.

Under the auspices of the International Labor Defense, the program of the meeting is scheduled to present as the main speaker, Leo Gallagher, world famous labor attorney. There will also be musical entertainment and refreshments.

Honor Spain's Heroes

The announcement sent out by the International Labor Defense reads in part:

"**. . . On this historic anniversary we not only pause to remember and commemorate the men, women and children who gave their lives in Freedom's cause in Paris, but also to honor and commemorate the thousands of men and women who are laying down their lives on the battlefields of Spain in defense of their democratically elected government. Like their predecessors of the Paris Commune, they prefer death to the yoke of oppression and Fascism.**"

Admission to the meeting will be 10 cents.

MEXICANS FIGHT HIGHER PRICES

MEXICO CITY — Constantly rising prices during the past year all consumers' goods and particularly of such articles of prime necessity as corn, beans, rice, milk, sugar, coffee, and many others, have at last provoked the beginning of widespread popular action throughout the country.

The increase in prices has been a steady movement noticeable since 1929, but it took a steep climb upwards a year ago after the legislation introduced obligatory payment for the seventh day of the week. Since then all prices have been mounting at a rapid rate and more than wiping out the gains in wages won as a result of many strikes in practically all industries. As a result, real wages are certainly no higher, and in many cases are actually lower, than they were a year ago.

'Time in Favor of Loyalists'

VALENCIA—"I am tremendously impressed by the changes for the better made during the past four months since my last visit to Spain," Vernon Bartlett, foreign editor of The London News-Chronicle, declared upon leaving Valencia.

"I am particularly impressed with the fortifications around Madrid, which are so strong that I doubt if rebels can ever take the capital. Equally impressive is the better discipline which prevails.

"Time works in favor of the loyalists, for the overwhelming mass of the Spanish people support the republican government. The mistake of the Fascists is underestimating the power of resistance of the masses fighting for liberty. On one side you have the militarists and privileged classes, on the other the Spanish people. I am confident the people will win in the end."

Film Shows Italian Army in Malaga

ROME—Several fiancees of Italian soldiers received letters saying: "If you want to see me, go to the film 'The Liberation of Malaga.'" It was a newsreel showing the Italian capture of Malaga, which was withdrawn after two days' showing because it was a little too raw in showing Italian soldiers, officers and army trucks (with Italian insignias). Such is the "Spanish" insurgent army.

'FREE SPEECH"

COLUMBUS—The Ohio Board of Censors has banned the motion picture "'Spain in Flames" from being shown in this state, because the film is anti-Fascist.

California *A Working Class History* By Ned Dahl

We begin to arrive at the period in California history when the Americans play an increasingly important part in the life of the territory.

It is therefore of interest to trace our steps back a little, so that we may understand what first brought the Americans to California.

The first American "visitors" came from New England. Not the glorious climate, nor the beautiful scenery attracted them, for these men were hard-fisted New England merchants and traders.

They were drawn by the immense possibilities of the fur trade, and the opening of commerce with the Chinese Empire in the late last days of the 18th century.

The New England merchants were fascinated by the possibilities described by an Englishman, Captain James Cook, who led an expedition of two vessels from Plymouth, England. The expedition left Plymouth in 1776, when the colonists on the eastern seaboard were in the midst of a war of liberation, and when the Spanish colony of Alta California was in its infant clothes.

Cook and his sailors, who reached the Pacific Coast after a long stay in the South Sea Islands, found that they could buy luxurious skins from the Indians for comparatively trivial trinkets. When the expedition reached China, Cook's men found the furs in such demand that they fetched prices far beyond the Englishmens' expectations.

Thus began a highly profitable trade.

Although it was not until 1784 that Cook made public the results of his voyage, one of Cook's corporals, a colorful adventurer named John Ledyard, revealed to a few Americans the opportunities afforded by the Pacific fur trade.

Among the few Americans were Rebore Morris, John Paul Jones, and Thomas Jefferson.

Financed by Morris, a leading banker of the day, Ledyard engaged in several fruitless attempts to reach the Pacific Coast.

Meanwhile, the Revolutionary sian traders were not slow to profit from Cook's experiences. By 1790 they were "visiting" the Coast in such numbers that the Spaniards took steps against them.

eManwhile, the Revolutionary War had come to a close. The American states faced severe economic problems. The New England merchants and shippers must now look to new channels of trade if complete stagnation of commerce was to be avoided. California's fur and the oriental trade seemed a solution.

(To Be Continued)

While the Germans Go Without Butter



THAT WELL known butcher, Colonel-General Hermann Wilhelm Goering ostensibly went to Poland to hunt wolves, but in reality discussed plans for a war on Soviet Union. He is shown with President Ignace Moskicki

Reminiscences of California Labor

By J. E. SNYDER

As Harrison Grey Otis was the "Representative Man" in California of the capitalist side of the struggle, in the early part of this century, so Job Harriman was "the Representative Man" of Labor of the same period.

Although militant and a persistent warrior, Job Harriman personified the muddled state of mind that prevailed in the trade union and Socialist Party circles of the time. There was something in the man that drew people to choose him for leadership, only to be disappointed at the critical point, for he insisted, yes, persisted, on being the committee voice or else he would not play.

His opportunism and lining up the labor leaders to direct the political expression of Labor through the Socialist Party medium, always brought a bitter struggle within the ranks of the Socialist Party. The Constitution of the party forbade putting anyone on a ticket who had not been a member for at least one year. Harrmian and his supporters rode rough-shod over this provision when it did not suit his purposes.

The followers of Eugene V. Debs were just as militant and carried on the educational and organizational campaign during off-political times, but the Harriman forces usually trimmed their sails to steer the political affairs when election times rolled around.

Debs and Chinese Exclusion

When Debs took a decided stand against Chinese exclusion Harriman and his forces did their best to keep him from coming into the state. There was a plank in the platform for Oriental exclusion.

During the early part of the McNamara-Los Angeles Times battle, Bill Haywood was touring the west and the Harriman forces kept him from speaking in Los Angeles. Haywood backers went ahead, but finally we got word that the McNamara boys had requested "Big Bill" not to speak in Los Angeles, and he refrained. The meeting at Anaheim was covered, the entire speech taken down and printed in the Los Angeles Citizen. This tightened the party lines of battle between the two forces. Job Harriman's political forces in the unions and the Socialist Party were laying their plans to capture the city of Los Angeles by electing Harriman as mayor.

They finally won full control of the city and state Party organizations.

The Constitution of the Socialist Party was in direct conflict with the ideas of Harriman for conducting this campaign and who should be on the ticket. People who were never in the party were signed up, after they were nominated on the ticket, because they were trade unionists or belonged to some large social body. As to the wisdom or non-wisdom of all that took place in that campaign, this will have to be dealt with in another article.

Harriman first came into conflict with Debs during the first Socialist campagin in 1900 when Debs was candidate for President and Harriman candidate for Vice-President.

Debs and Harriman

Debs had a decided reaction against Harriman's opportunism and his "Uriah Heep tactics" and vacillations. Both men saw the necessity of close relationship to the trade unions, but their way of going about it was in continuous conflict. Debs, a straight-from-the-shoulder advocate, followed the William Leibknecht policy of "no compromise, no political trading," and Harriman followed the policy of using any avenue to gain his ends, even to individually setting aside the constitution and platform of the Socialist Party.

The Harriman forces backed Fred Wheeler and other members of the Socialist Party who actually signed their names to a platform that was also signed by Republican and Democratic Party candidates, already in office, as was Fred Wheeler.

Although the group dubbed "Reds" were in control of the party machinery, the Harriman and Wheeler forces dubbed "yellows," working mostly outside the party, were able to swing the majority of the party membership to follow them in violating the constitution of the party.

The Constitution again forbade candidates running on any ticket or platform other than that of the Socialist Party. The idea seemed to be "What is a Socialist Party Constitution between Harriman and his friends?" The end always seemed to justify the means with Harriman.

The so-called "Reds" in opposing Harriman were consistent so far as their party organization was concerned, but allowed the ranks to be filled by another brand of opportunists in the critical periods of campaigns. We will deal with them in another article.

The weakness of the Harriman leadership was well demonstrated on the morning after the McNamara boys were betrayed into a so-called confession.

The streets were covered with Harriman buttons. Harriman was not one of the betrayers in this case and nearly fainted when he heard the news. Had the election taken place at that moment his vote would have been very small, but the trade union support was able to hold a good showing at the election. Harriman polled 50,000 votes for Mayor. Once over, however, the whole set-up broke down and Harriman went off into organizing Colonies.

No Practical Example

In the approach to political and industrial problems of the time, 1909 to 1913, neither the "Reds" or the "Yellows" had any real scientific knowledge by which to proceed. There was no practical example, such as the Soviet Union, where Socialism is at work. We had no party schools. Individually-owned newspapers, such as the "Appeal to Reason," the "International Socialist Review," and the "Christian Socialist," aided the confusion.

The Party-owned newspaper, the "Oakland World," was not the official paper at the time of the Harriman campaign, for it was "Red."

The "Social Democrat" was the official organ of the Socialist Party in the state and was the voice of the "Yellows" during the Harriman campaign.

The Los Angeles Citizen was the official organ of the Trade Unions under the editorship of Stanley B. Wilson. It was a sixteen-page paper and at first was opposed to the Harriman tactics, but had to finally surrender. Another article will appear later about Stanley B. Wilson, for around him and the "Citizen" there is much of importance, if we are to get a view of what was doing in the days when the California labor movement and the political line-up of Labor was in the making.

As to my right to speak of the period, I might say that I was a National Organizer of the Socialist Party, associate editor of the Citizen in the early stages of the McNamara case, and later Secretary of the Socialist Party of Los Angeles County.

In 1915 I became editor of the Oakland World and when it was suppressed in 1919 I became editor of the Western Worker, which ran for two and a half years during the time of the trials of our staff and the officers of the "Communist Labor Party."

(To be continued)

E. BAY LABOR TAKING STAND ON ELECTIONS

Progressives Seeking Minimum Labor Platform

OAKLAND — Progressives in labor movement are expected to introduce a platform expressing the immediate needs of labor, and to seek endorsement of only those candidates who commit themselves to this program, when the Alameda County Non-Partisan Political Federation of Labor convenes here Saturday night, March 13.

The Federation meeting is called to formulate a position in regard to the municipal elections of April 20. The Federation includes the Central Labor Council, Building Trades Council and the Railroad Brotherhoods.

The Federation's move toward independent political action for the municipal elections, was blocked by reactionaries within the labor movement, who are tied to the Mike Kelly Republican machine.

PARIS—French deputies voted 470 to 46 for a defense loan of $585,000,000. About 100 rightist deputies abstained from voting, fearing to vote in opposition and refusing to uphold the government supported by the People's Front.

THE VIGILANTES AT WORK IN THE NEVADA AREA

At a meeting of the vigilantes of the Grass Valley and Nevada City mining districts, Friday, March 5, 1937, called to order by Lyle Freeman, President of the local Chamber of Commerce, a so-called citizens committee of five thousand, was formed.

In The Dark

Word of this midnight meeting was sent Paul Revere style from house to house in the late afternoon and evening. As of old, the vigilante meeting was held in the dark of night, midnight, in fact. In the opening address it was stated that this committee was being formed to support the Grass Valley Miner's Protestice League in its efforts to become the sole collective bargaining agency in the entire district. The reason for this support being the well-known harmonious relations between the mine operators and their employees.

But bear this fact in mind, this League is composed of not miners, but small business men, professional men and other town citizens. The only thing in the past that this company union has had to offer its membership has been a small weekly sick benefit, not better working conditions or increase in wages.

Why this midnight vigilante meeting? Organizers of an Industrial Union were in this Grass Valley and Nevada City mining district at the request of the miners themselves, and were organizing men, not into this company union where they could be controlled by the employers, but into a bona fide union affiliated with the AFL.

Fear Union

The operators knew that this must be stopped, for if it was not stopped, the operators, who can afford to pay a mine manager such a salary that he can build a forty thousand dollar stable for his horses, would have to pay these miners a decent living wage, and could no longer sit around and clip their coupons.

This must be stopped, and the only way to stop it would be to call these vigilantes together and disrupt any further plans for organizing the men into an industrial union.

Where did these organizers come from? Out of a clear sky came word to the vigilantes that the organizers of the I.U.M.M. &.S.W. were in town. These organizers arrived on Tuesday. By Sunday hundreds were ready to sign up, and did sign up. Hundreds more were wanting to sign up.

Secret Committee

Then came this midnight meeting. A secret committee of thirteen was formed to sound a call whenever needed to stop this organizing. A call was made to the audience to come forward and support the purposes of this vigilante committee or else leave the hall.

....Only a few responded. There were various speakers. The Rotary Club, Lions Club, and the local police department had speakers. It is a deplorable condition when an effort is made to disrupt and tear down any effort by any men to better their conditions and increase their wages.

In this free country men are supposed to have the right to band themselves into unions of their own choice. One of the speakers stated that they did not want or expect labor troubles in Grass Valley but if they did, that the traditions of vigilante actions had been handed down to them from the days of 49, and they would know what to do. Such vicious fascist tactics in any community must not be tolerated.

DEMOCRACY IS INCREASED BY C. P. OF USSR

New Party Elections To Be Held By May 20

MOSCOW—Further democratization of procedure of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, in keeping with the further democratization of the electoral system of the USSR, was announced following a plenary session of the Party's Central Committee.

The introduction of the new constitution of the USSR signifies a turning point in the political life of the country, the resolution of the Central Committee declares.

Constitution a Turning Point

Introducing the question of the effect of this change on party organization, a further resolution declares:

"The result of the introduction of universal, equal and direct election rights, with secret balloting, will be the further strengthening of the political activity of the masses, the drawing of new sections of the toilers into the management of the state.

"Thus the dictatorship of the proletariat becomes more flexible, and therefore a more powerful system of the management of the state by the working class of society.

At the Head

"In order to meet this turning point, the Party should stand at the head of the turn, and fully provide for its leading role in the forthcoming election to the supreme organs of the country."

The resolution then provided for an end to the practice of appointing members to party committees, a prohibition on voting by slates and substitution of voting for individual candidates, establishment of closed (secret) ballot, obligation of all party organs to carry out elections once a year in accordance with party statutes, and insistence on the holding of general party meetings in regions where these have been replaced by shop meetings and conferences.

Under these provisions, the Central Committee called for the complete re-election of all party organs and committees, from bottom to top, by May 20.

L. Beach Telegraph Boys Win Strike

LONG BEACH—The one-day strike of Long Beach messenger boys, which threatened to tie up the whole works, has forced local telegraph officials to urge central authorities to grant higher wages.

The messengers, who struck both Postal and Western Union, demand a 10 cents an hour increase and overtime pay.

Make the Labor Page of the Western Worker a real page of, by and for organized labor.

BRITISH GOV'T AIDED REBELS

BOSTON—Rather than aid the Fascists by carrying nitrates to Seville, the crew of the British Freighter Lineria accepted dishonorable discharges. Alex Robson, spokesman for the crew, himself a war veteran decorated for bravery, charged that the British government had refused to allow the boat to carry a cargo to the loyalist port of Barcelona, but granted a charter for the rebel port of Seville.

TWO ITALIAN DIVISIONS ON MADRID FRONT

Miaja Scores Rumor of Abandoning Madrid

MADRID—Two complete Italian divisions, fighting in the Alaminos district 65 miles northeast of Madrid, are among an estimated 65 to 85 thousand Italian troops in Spain.

The divisions are commanded by an Italian general named Pocci.

An Italian division consists of approximately 14,000 men.

One of these divisions was revealed by three Italian prisoners as having landed at Cadiz on Feb. 22.

Government forces have resisted the troops in bloody conflicts.

In a radio broadcast, General Jose Miaja, commander on the Central Front, emphatically denied he had counseled the abandonment of Madrid as rebel radio stations had rumored in an effort to spread confusion.

Redwood Mfg. Gives Pay Boost in P'bg.

PITTSBURG, Cal.—Fear of a strike caused the Redwood Manufacturing Co. here to grant its 250 employees a basic scale of 53 cents an hour. Old scale was 43 cents. The increases take effect March 16.

UNITED CHINA FRONT FORCES NEW APPROACH

New Concessions Are Demanded At Geneva

TOKYO—Faced with the prospect of a powerful and united China and with increasing discontent among the masses at home, Japan has announced a significant change of tactics in its campaign of economic penetration of China.

Speaking before the Japanese parliament, Foreign Minister Naotake Sato indicated that Japan would seek a compromise with British Imperialism.

Simultaneously a representative of Japan at Geneva was demanding right of Japan to send her "excess population" to all "undeveloped" territories of the earth.

Sato announced "A fresh start on the basis of equality" (in dealing with China).

Further he declared, "We must do something definite to improve our present unfavorable relations with China which are highly disadvantageous to both countries—Recently Japan has clashed with British economic and trade interests in China. It is unwise for Japan to cause anxiety to other points with interests in China and it will be best for Japan to follow a peaceful course of cooperating with other nations."

Soft Pedaled

At the same time Sato soft pedaled the Japanese attack on the Soviet Union, an obvious concession to Japanese public sentiment which recognizes the German-Japanese "anti-Communist" pact as involving Japan on a perilous course in international politics.

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Western Worker

Western Organ of the Communist Party, U. S. A.

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Founded 1932

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Enough of Whitewash!

TWO WEEKS ago the WESTERN WORKER declared that the investigation into the mass murder of the ten workers killed on the Golden Gate Bridge must not be whitewashed, as others have been!

We declared we were certain that an attempt would be made to whitewash all concerned. Now the officials of the Pacific Bridge Company, testifying before the Grand Jury, declared they were at a loss to advance any reason for the cause of the grim disaster!

Will the Grand Jury calmly accept these statements—preposterous in face of the evidence that the Industrial Accident Commission warned the company twice of the unsafe condition of the scaffolding—at their face value?

These officials do more than express the most incredible ignorance as the cause of the accident." They imply it was the fault of a worker! We quote from the S. F. Chronicle story of last Tuesday:

"Although the witnesses unofficially admitted at least half a dozen theories had been considered, they declined to support any of them, leaving the implication that the accident may have been due to a workman having missed his assignment while the scaffolding was being removed."

There is no mystery as to the cause of the so-called "accident"—which was no accident at all, but criminal negligence which amounts to cold-blooded murder. **It was caused by the refusal of the company to heed the repeated warnings of the Industrial Accident Commission!**

Responsibility must be fixed—at once—where it belongs, and the guilty punished! We've had enough of whitewash!

Hitlerism in L.A. Politics

THE KIDNAPING, threatening and intimidation of a Los Angeles woman in a desperate attempt to keep the name of Grover Johnson, fighting labor attorney, off the ballot in the Councilmanic race, is an event of far-reaching and dangerous implications.

It is the application of Hitlerism to Los Angeles politics.

Grover Johnson's record as a fearless champion of labor's rights is well known in Los Angeles. There is every reason why the reactionaries in the Los Angeles City Administration should want to keep Johnson's name off the ballot. They resorted to Fascist methods in an attempt to achieve this.

The attempt was defeated—since a mass pressure was used to put the whole glare of publicity on those responsible. But even if Johnson's name did get on the ballot, there still remains the actual kidnaping itself, perpetrated by people who declared they represented the City Clerk.

If this brazen act is allowed to go unpunished a dangerous precedent will be set.

We demand a Grand Jury investigation into the kidnaping, with indictments against those responsible—those who planned it as well as those who carried it out!

Mr. Fitts Red-Baits

WHEN NEWS of the shooting of Buron Fitts reached us, we wondered how long it would be before Mr. Fitts, with his usual red-baiting tactics, would accuse the Communists of having either planned the attack or executed it, or both.

Mr. Fitts has "come through." He now accuses the Communists of having had him shot. We don't think that his accusation will make any serious impression on serious-minded people. The stand of the Communist Party against acts of violence and terrorism is well known. Such acts are stupid. They solve no problems—and actually hinder the workers from winning their justified demands. Organized mass economic action is the solution, and the only solution to the problems workers meet when they go out on strike for better conditions.

There have been other attempts made to paint the Communist Party with the brush of violence and terrorism. The King-Conner-Ramsay frame-up was the latest. But even here, the District Attorney and shipowners, after much loud talk, had to subside and admit they had nothing to base their accusations on.

Terror and violence is the weapon of the reactionary employers—not of the Communist Party!

Fitts' record of dealings with gangsters and racketeers, his close tie-up with the "inner circle" of grafters in Los Angeles, is such that the imagination is not taxed in wondering who is responsible for the shooting. But what is certain is that Fitts will make use of the incident to start an intensive red-baiting campaign.

The Douglas strikers must not be victimized by the tactics of Mr. Fitts. Red-baiting is the first weapon the open-shoppers use in their attempts to disrupt unity and break a strike.

The WPA Lay-off Program Must Be Defeated!

THE THREATENED discharge of tens of thousands of WPA workers in California from their jobs beginning April 1st is being met by the organized resistance of the Workers' Alliance. Locals in the Bay area have already signified their intention to meet the lay-offs with strike action.

The time is past when the relief authorities can cut workers off the rolls as casually as they break their morning toast, with no organized action by the workers.

In San Francisco the Workers' Alliance is also demanding the putting into effect of the 10 per cent raise already won to meet the increased cost of living.

While the healthy sentiment of the members of the Workers' Alliance is for strike, steps should be taken at once to involve those WPA workers on the projects who are not yet in the Workers' Alliance. The strike action should be discussed on every project, every worker involved in the decision, **and simultaneously a recruiting drive carried on to build the Workers' Alliance into a mighty mass weapon of the workers on the WPA and relief rolls!**

The lay-offs can be halted. The workers on WPA will not allow the relief administration to throw them off to starve! But what is needed to guarantee success is the united action of all the WPA workers, supporting their recognized collective bargaining agency, the Workers' Alliance!

Japanese Imperialism's Hypocrisy

WHEN Foreign Minister Sato declared a few days ago that "Japan has no territorial ambitions in China," he surely must have had his tongue in his cheek.

With Japanese imperialism's strangle hold on Manchuokuo and intrenchment in North China, we wonder what Sato means by "territorial ambitions?"

What Sato really meant was that with the growing unity of the Chinese people, a unity welded by the consistent struggles of the Chinese Communist Party, now is not the opportune time to push for MORE territory. **Certainly, if the denial of territorial ambitions was anything more than a smooth and hypocritical political phrase, the first action would be the evacuation of Japanese troops from all Chinese territory!**

The Nationalist government at Nanking is used to Japan's phrases. This is why Nanking officials have said "deeds and not words" are what Nanking expects from Japan.

WESTERN WORKER-DAILY WORKER DRIVE STANDING

As of March 9th 1937

County or Section:	Quota	Received 3-1 to 3-9	Total Raised	Per Cent Raised	Yet to Be Raised
Merced	$ 50	$ 5.00	$65.65	131.3	.....
Santa Barbara	125	.....	152.80	122.3	.....
Sonoma	150	10.00	168.75	112.5	.....
Tulare	50	.....	50.15	100.3	.....
San Francisco	3000	1400.00	3001.00	100.0	.....
Nevada	25	8.00	22.50	90.00	$ 2.50
Sacramento	150	20.50	121.99	81.5	28.01
Bakersfield	50	6.00	36.91	73.8	13.09
Eureka	50	15.75	34.25	68.5	15.75
Fort Bragg	75	.....	49.95	66.6	25.05
Contra Costa	100	20.10	64.56	64.5	35.44
Alameda	1000	11.00	633.30	63.3	366.70
Los Angeles	5000	325.00	3118.44	62.3	1881.56
San Diego	400	62.94	244.85	61.2	155.15
San Mateo	150	1.70	73.75	49.2	76.25
Arizona	25	.....	11.47	45.9	13.53
Monterey	100	.....	45.25	45.2	54.75
Santa Clara	150	.....	60.67	40.4	89.33
Stockton	50	.....	20.00	40.0	30.00
San Bernardino	100	.....	37.25	37.2	62.75
Fresno	50	.....	10.00	20.0	40.00
At Large	1050	4.62	148.23	14.0	901.77
Y. C. L.	100	.....	.....	0.0	100.00
Total	$12000	$1890.61	$8171.78	68.1	$3828.22
Yet to be raised			3828.22		
Quota			$12000.00		

The Southern Tenant Farmers Organize



AN ORGANIZER addresses a local of the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union at Crowley's ridge, Arkansas.

Why Millions Honor the Memory of Karl Marx

Karl Marx was born May 5, 1818, in the city of Trier, Germany. On March 14, 1883, Marx died, peacefully in his armchair.

On this, the 54th anniversary of the death of Marx, tens of millions honor him throughout the world.

Why they honor Karl Marx is told in the article we here print. It is written by a member of the Marx-Engels-Lenin Institute, Moscow.)

By L. Perchik

Karl Marx—This name is inscribed in flaming letters in the history of mankind.

Under the banner of Marx the working class is being rallied into a mighty force, delivering blow after blow to the capitalist system, smashing the bourgeois state in revolutionary battles, setting up its own revolutionary power—the proletarian dictatorship—under which there is neither exploitation nor oppression, and is building the new, classless, Communist society.

In Every Corner of The Earth

Karl Marx's name is renowned throughout the world, as is that of his closest friend and revolutionary collaborator, Frederick Engels, and those of Lenin and Stalin, the best disciples and perpetuators of their cause.

Everywhere, in the farthest corners and most outlying disdicts of every land, wherever beat the hearts of workers and toilers, the name of Marx is a beacon, lighting the way to Communism. At the same time his name, together with the names of Engels, Lenin and Stalin, is more detested than any other by the capitalists and landlords who exploit the labour of the millions, by those who enslave and oppress the proletariat, the peasantry and the colonial peoples.

Why is this so?

Why is Marx so loved by some and hated by others? Why is his name so near and dear to hundreds of millions of those who toil, so odious to those who live on the toil of these hundreds of millions?

Scientific Communism

It is because Marx was the first to work out the revolutionary doctrine of the proletriat—scientific Communism—this most important weapon in the hands of the workers which raises their class consciousness and closes their ranks against the old order of exploitation and oppression. Marx ranks among the greatest scientists of the proletariat; it was he who broke the chains that fettered the workers' minds. Simultaneously Marx devoted all his life to active participation in the revolutionary struggle of the proletariat, guiding this struggle as the best leader of the working class. Marx completely subordinated his theories to the interests of the proletarian clas struggle, upon which his theories are based.

Fifty years ago, Engels, in an excellent appraisal of Marx, referred to him as the great teacher and leader of the proletariat. In his speech over the grave of March on March 17, 1883, Engels said:

Just as Darwin discovered the law of evolution in organic nature, so Marx discovered the law of evolution in human history; he discovered the simple fact, hitherto concealed by an overgrowth of idealogy, that mankind must first of all eat and drink, have shelter and clothing, before it can pursue politics, science, religion, art, etc.; and that therefore the production of the immediate material means of life and consequently the degree of economic development attained by a given people or during a given epoch form the foundation upon which the forms of government, the legal conceptions, the art and even the religious ideas of the people concerned have been evolved, and in the light of which these things must therefore be explained, instead of vice versa as had hitherto been the case.

But that is not all. Marx also discovered the special law of motion governing the present-day capitalist method of production and the bourgeois society that this method of production and the discovery of surplus value suddenly threw light on the problem in trying to solve which all previous investigators, both bourgeois economists and socialist critics, had been groping in the dark. . .

This was the man of science. But this was not even half the man. . . For Marx was before all else a revolutionary . . .

And consequently Marx was the best hated and most calumniated man of his times. Governments, both absolutist and republican, deported him from their territories. The bourgeoisie, whether conservative or extreme democrat, vied with one another in heaping slanders upon him. All this he brushed aside as though it were cobwebs, ignoring them, answering only when necessity compelled him. And now he has died—beloved, revered and mourned by millions of revolutionary fellow-workers—from the mines of Siberia to California, in all parts of Europe and America. . . .(The fourteenth of March, 1883, International Publishers, pp. 11-13.)

Marx devoted the whole of his life exclusively to the proletariat, to its revolutionary struggle, to its education and organization along class lines. Marx was first among those in the foremost ranks of the proletariat, a surpassing theoretical genius, a steadfast Communist, a stern revolutionary who never retreated in the face of difficulties, the first, the most skillful leader of the revolutionary armies of the working class.

This explains why Marx's name is so cherished by every worker. This is why Marx's revolutionary activities and his liberating doctrine—scientific Communism—are studied by every class-conscious worker.

The All Important Task Now Is To Consolidate Communist Party Gains

This column, which will be a weekly feature, belongs to members and friends of the Communist Party, and also to those workers who are just becoming interested in the Party and want to see what it is and how it works. Its object is to improve the Party units and branches in all their work by exchanging information, personal experiences, helpful suggestions, etc., and to answer all questions addressed by the workers to the Party Life Editor.

Following are excerpts from the State Membership Director's reports to the Party Builders' Congress of February 6-7.

"It is a happy event and task to be able to report to you on the achievements of our Browder Ford Recruiting Drive. At this time we should take a balance sheet of this accomplishment. These 1916 new people in our party have come from different races, nationalities and have a variety of intrests. The analysis of these people tells us that of these 1916 new comrades, 905 are members of the AFL; 450 are women; 206 are youth for the YCL; 105 are Negro people; 165 are Spanish and Mexican workers; 100 are former Party members who have rejoined; and 1245 are native born Americans.

Recruited 616

"The outstanding achievement of our party was the accomplishment of our San Francisco comrades who under the leadership of comrade Spector the county organizer, recruited 616 members of whom 437 are members of the AFL.

"Let us review briefly the plan adopted at the beginning of the Recruiting Drive. The first step was the establishment of the State Recruiting Committee. The first suggestion that this committee made was the establishment of recruiting committees in all counties and sections and the assigning of responsible comrades in units and branches to be directly responsible for recruiting. In this respect, comrades we can say we had a weak situation. It was not until one half of the Drive was over that the majority of the units and branches had established such committes — and only where such committees or individual comrades were functioning, was recruiting systematic.

"Our second weakness was in our inability to maintain close contact with lower bodies. These two, resulted in us being unable to involve the majority of our Party members, so that the Drive was not a part and parcel of our whole Party, but one in which only 30 to 35% of our members were involved. If we realize that 30% can recruit 2000 new members, what could we have accomplished if our entire Party, 100% strong had carried on a day to day recruiting.

"But now our Drive is over and our main task is to CONSOLIDATE the gains made during the past few months. And to keep thousands of our new comrades in our Party. With the objective of raising our dues membership to 4000 by May 1st and reducing our fluctuations to an absolute minimum. How are we going to do this? We have several proposals based upon our experiences during the Recruiting Drive.

"First, it is absolutely necessary that our present functioning recruiting drive committees and directors be retained. Where such committees do not exist it should be the immediate task of our leading buros to see that they are established. It is the task of these membership directors to see that the new members are given proper political education in our New Member Units and that later they are given the type of work in which they are interest. It is their duty to see that Recruiting is kept always in the foreground in their units and branches.

Continue Recruiting

"You comrades, who have done such splendid work can do a great deal to see that this is put into practice by raising this question sharply in your units and branches.

"At this time we have an opportunity to continue recruiting at an even greater tempo. We have 2000 new comrades who have thousands of friends and contacts that have never before been approached by a member of the Party. We should make it our central task to see that these 2000 new members bring their friends, relatives and shopmates into the Party as well.

"At this time we want to thank you for the splendid work you have done and ask you to remember the experiences that you will hear here this day and to put them into practice, so that by May 1 we will have 4000 dues paying members and a minimum of fluctuation in our Party."

AS WE SEE IT

By BILL SCHNEIDERMAN,
California State Secretary, Communist Party, U. S. A.

'Organize Agriculture!

THE COMING meeting of the executive committee of the State Federation of Labor will have on its order of business the question of agriculture. The State Federation has the opportunity of making up for much lost time by immediate launching an intensive drive to organize the agricultural and cannery workers along the lines of the program adopted by the recent state convention o fagricultural and cannery workers' unions, and appropriating funds for the drive.

There is a disquieting lack of interest on the part of State Federation officials, since they were unable to put over their bureaucratic and undemocratic proposals at the recent agricultural convention. If Vandeleur sabotages the granting of the promised state charter, it will be the greatest crime committed against the agricultural workers since the sell-out of the Salinas strike.

Ignored for Years

For years the State Federation of Labor completely ignored the most bitterly exploited workers in the State. The Communists carried the brunt of the pioneer work in the agricultural fields, which the farm-laborers have never forgotten. The distrust and suspicion with which the agricultural workers looked upon AFL officials was understandable.

The Communist Party was nevertheless the first to carry on patient, persistent work among them to break down the prejudice against the AFL. It was the work of the Communists that was to a large extent instrumental in bringing the agricultural workers into AFL Federal locals. We fought for local autonomy and full democracy for the rank and file, while at the same time fighting for the establishment of a state-wide organization, and an international. We fought for an organizing drive to be undertaken directly by the State Federation of Labor.

A great forward step in that direction was taken at the 1936 convention of the State Federation, but little or nothing was done since then to carry out its decisions. One of the biggest setbacks was the manner in which Vandeleur bungled and finally sold out the Salinas strike.

Vandeleur and Salinas

The "settlement" was so raw, that even the capitalist courts couldn't stomach it. The recent action of a judge in granting a restraining order against the growers' "hiring hall" blacklist of strikers, is evidence of the kind of settlement that Vandeleur and his red-baiting attorney, A. J. Aram, put over on the strikers.

Nevertheless there is an almost spontaneous outburst of struggles in the agricultural fields, which shows the crying need for organization. Last year an agricultural conference called in Stockton also adopted a constructive organization program; but because the Trotzkyites who were working hand in glove with Vandeleur and Fred West, couldn't get control of the apparatus to put over their disruptive program, the decisions of that conference were ignored and sabotaged.

Now, half a year after the State Federation of Labor decided on an organizing drive, the same sabotage is threatened by Vandeleur because the rank and file at the recent agricultural convention took things in their own hands and insisted on full democracy in the union to be established under a state charter.

The situation is a challenge to every militant and progressive trade unionist in California. If their voice is heard in every local and central labor council, there is still time to force the executive committee of the State Federation of Labor to grant the state charter, appropriate funds, and launch the organization drive in agriculture.

Virginia's First Sitdown is Won

SALUDA, Va. — Thirty-two high school students here staged and won the state's first sitdown strike.

They refused to leave the school bus until running water had been installed in the school building. The school principal gave the excuse that he couldn't find a well digger to clean the well on which the school depended. But he found one.

CIO Drives On In Oil and Textile

(Continued from Page 1)

labor, as capitalist press reports try to indicate. No immediate changes in the method of financing the CIO is contemplated, John L. Lewis said.

CIO Plans

Executiv officers of the Committee for Industrial Organization have been authorized to issiue certificates of affiliation to national, international, state, regional, city and county central and local bodies "whenever it is deemed such action is advisable."

It was made plain that this meant only affiliating CIO organizations expelled by the AFL Executive Council's orders, or central labor and other bodies expelled because they refuse to throw out CIO unions.

Even such authority will be used sparingly at first, John L. Lewis announced.

The fight against expulsion of CIO or other unions is to continue, as well as the fight for reinstatement of CIO unions.

Lewis placed the blame for splitting squarely on the shoulders of the Executive Council, which, he said, "is driving us from home."

The CIO has announced an immediate organization campaign in oil, including California.

The great CIO drive to organize the entire textile industry of over 1,250,000 workers has begun. An agreement between the CIO and the United Textile Workers Union has been concluded under which a Textile Workers Organizing Committe, headed by Sidney Hillman, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, is to be set up. It will tackle the huge textile and garment industry in the same way the Steel Workers Organizing Committee works in steel.

A $500,000 war chest and 400 organizers have been thrown into the textile organizing campaign. Headquarters of the drive will be in New York, with regional headquarters in New England and the South.

In Oakland, Police Chief Wallman and City Manager Hassler were forced to promised investigation of last week's arrest of Frank Slaby and Miles Humphrey, CIO organizers, on vagrancy charges. Both were released. The CIO has demanded ousting of Police Chief Thorvald Brown.

S.F. Labor Hails Picket Law Death

(Continued from Page 1)

organized labor that picketing does not mean violence unless it is incited by employers.

People Show Progressive

"It ought to be apparent to anyone that members of unions do not seek trouble, whereby they stand the biggest chance of getting hurt through clashes with authorities."

"In repealing the anti-picketing ordinance the people of San Francisco have demonstrated their progressive tendencies," said Henry Schmidt, president of ILA 38-79.

"The result speaks for itself," declared Ed Dillon, president of Machinists 68. "We are now going to use our constitutional privilege which was denied us for 20 years."

"San Francisco has shown the way," declared a statement by the Citizens' Committee for Repeal of the Anti-Picketing Ordinance, signed by Rev. Dillon W. Throckmorton, chairman.

"We hope that others will follow our example. To make such action possible, the Citizens' Committee urges the cementing and further extension of the unity between the forces of labor and all progressives which has achieved this outstanding victory."

'Western' Recommendations

Of 20 proposals before the voters, all but seven were acted on as recommended in the Western Worker.

The seven which went against these recommendations were:

No. 1, revenue bonds to take over power distribution from P.G.&E., which lost 65,688 to 77,614; No. 7, higher pensions for police officers, which lost 66,090 to 74,350; No. 12, police reorganization for more bureaucracy, which carried 74,518 to 54,394; No. 13, which lost 49,987 to 79,361; No. 15, which lost 34,731 to 84,873; No. 17, which lost 44,684 to 75, 526; No. 20, which lost 65,315 to 76,436.

How Trotzkyites Work with Fascists for War, Against Labor

UNION BRANDS FRASER, TROTZKYITE TRAITOR TO LABOR MOVEMENT FOR DISRUPTIVE ACTIONS IN RECENT SAN DIEGO COUNTY CELERY STRIKE

Sabotaged Picket Lines, Disrupted and Flouted Discipline, and Did Everything Possible to Injure Striker Cause; Displayed Cowardice of Worst Sort While Workers Struggled

(We print herewith a copy of the charges presented at the Central Council of the Union Laborers and Field Workers of San Diego County, against the Trotzkyite Dick Frasier.)

A resolution was passed condemning the Trotzkyite as a traitor to the labor movement and barring him from attending meetings of any local of the organization. Frasier was a member of the American Agricultural Union.)

On the 14th of Novembre, 1936, "The Union of Laborers and Field Workers of San Diego County," and the "Agricultural Industrial Workers' Union of America," San Diego County, jointly petitioned the Growers and Shippers' Association of said County for a working agreement for the ensuing year.

In view of and because of the fact that the Association refused to negotiate, the unions voted to jointly prepare for a strike.

The Unions voted to set up and entrust with power and authority the management of the strike to a committee instead of leaders.

A joint strike committee consisting of 20 members (14 from the U .of L. and F. W. and six members from AIWU), were elected, which in turn elected the central strike committee.

(Central strike committee was voted the authority to have full charge, manage and have full power to conduct the affairs of the unions and the business of the strike.)

A joint defense committee was set up, to which Dick Fraser was elected to represent the AIWUA), also the joint relief committee (Dick Fraser was also a member of said committee) and a publicity committee (Fraser was a member of said committee).

The defense committee was instructed to contact the various organizations such as the American Civil Liberties Union, the Non-Partisan Labor Defense, the International Labor Defense, etc., with the purpose of obtaining legal defense and relief during the strike, and said committee was specifically instructed not to reject or refuse any assistance from the above-named organizations.

It was voted that the central strike committee was to be secret and that the names of its members should not be devulged.

It was also voted that the plans or strategy for the strike be secret, for obvious reasons.

Fraser's Role

The strike was called on Jan. 27, 1937 and was suspended 16 days later, and we charge and accuse Dick Fraser, a member of the AIWUA, of being the major and contributing factor for the cause of the suspension of the strike.

(1) We charge and accuse Dick Fraser of attempting to jeopardize the lives and liberties of Jose Peraze, chairman of the central strike committee and of fellow worker Harry Roscoe (former vice-chairman of said committee).

While being fully aware of the secrecy of said committee as stated above, Fraser insisted that the chairman and vice-chairman place their seal or signature on the strike call bulletin.

We accuse him therefore of violation of the rules, and insubordination to majority rule.

(2) We charge and accuse said Dick Fraser with sabotage, making false committee reports and intentionally and deliberately failing to execute the duties and commissions assigned to him. While making his daily committee reports he stated that **all** his committees are ready and set for the strike.

However, on the eve of the strike call he stated that none of the committees were functioning properly and accused the central strike committee of incompetency.

Caused Disruption

(3) We further acuse said Dick Fraser of disruptive and destructive tactics, and usurpation of authority. Although a member of a minority union consisting of 27 members, and not even a member of the strike committee, he charged the central strike committee and especially the secretary general of the union of Laborers and Field Workers (Mexican), an individual who was recently elected to the highest office in his union by many hundreds of fellow workers who love him and respect him, with being incompetent, and urged that he and other members of said committee be removed from office, said Dick Fraser being insistant that he himself be elected to said office.

(4) We further accuse and charge said Dick Fraser with attempting to bring discredit upon the unions involved and their duly elected officers, and we suspect that he entered into the union to take part in the strike for pecuniary gain.

After his election to the central strike committee he (Dick Frazer) proposed and insisted upon a sit-down strike in the incorporated area of the city of Chula Vista, although being fully aware that the union members employed in said areas or fields were a very small and insignificant minority, and notwithstanding the fact that it was pointed out to him that such tactics would be ineffective at such a time and place, and that the many arrests would decrease our picket line and jeopardize our chances of victory.

He insisted htat he desired a RIOT so that we would obtain large HEADLINES in the newspapers and MONEY will flow into our coffers, or words to that effect.

Sabotaged Picketing

(5) We further accuse Dick Fraser of attempting to, and discouraging our pickets from going to the picket line by instilling fear into them by his constant references to Chet Moore and violence, and by himself setting the example of not appearing where there was action.

(6) We further accuse and charge Dick Frazer with DELIBERATE SABOTAGE and making false reports in order to BREAK the strike. Although having advised the central strike committee as certain that the non-partisan labor defense will guarantee to pay for the gas and oil for the use of picketing, such was proved false. His report that the non-partisan labor defense will furnish and pay for the defense attorney proved just as false, the unions were notified to pay the attorney.

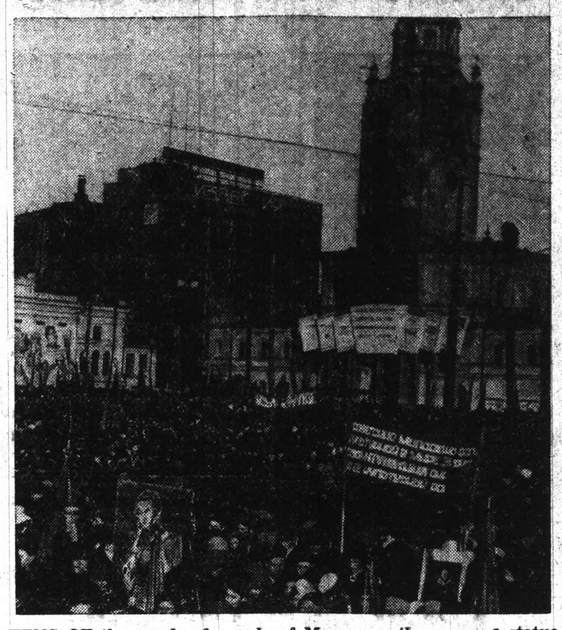
(7) We further accuse and charge said Dick Fraser with **cowardice** and disregard to the will of the majority as expressed by the vote of the membership of both unions.

Refusing to abide by the will of the majority in regard to the so-called truce, and disregarding the fact that the major victories of the strike were gained after the so-called truce was over, he publicly acclaimed that the strike is LOST, and two days later being ordered to the picket line, he refused to go, and further stated to all within hearing that he will not send out any more pickets on "more wild goose chases," thus breaking the morale of the pickets.

(8) We further accuse and charge Dick Fraser that his constant sabotaging, constant lying, constant DISRUPTING was the main and contributing factor for the suspension of the strike. Although Dick Fraser was instructed **not to refuse** any offers of assistance, he deliberately rejected and refused assistance offered to the unions by the International Labor Defense thereby causing our fellow workers to linger in jail and strikers and their families to suffer hunger and want, thus being the major contribution to the breaking of the morale and the spirit of many of the strikers, and the suspension of the strike.

(5) We further accuse Dick Fraser that by uttering and publishing in "Labor Action" (the official organ of the Socialist Party of California) many deliberate lies and falsehoods about our unions and the conduct of the elected officers during the strike; that his real intention and purpose was and is—to wreck the Agricultural Workers' Union in San Diego County. This we charge (and it is self-evident) that Dick Fraser is a LABOR FAKER OF THE WORSE AND LOWEST DESCRIPTION, and an ENEMY of ORGANIZED LABOR.

Soviet Union Honors a Great Poet



TENS OF thousands of people of Moscow gather around statue of great poet Pushkin, to commemorate the 100th aniversary of his death.

FOSTER EXPLAINS WHY TROTZKYITE FASCIST PLOTTERS CONFESSED AT THEIR TRIALS BY SOVIET PEOPLE'S COURT IN MOSCOW RECENTLY

No Promises, No Terrorism, But They Confessed Because Proof of Their Guilt Was So Overwhelming That They Were Left No Other Alternative But to Confess Their Plotting

The following is a section of a forthcoming pamphlet by William Z. Foster, noted trade union leader and chairman of the Communist Party, USA, entitled "Questions and Answers on the Piatakov-Radek Trial."

By WILLIAM Z. FOSTER

Why Did the Trotzkyites Confess?

In their attempt to brand the Piatakov-Radek trial as a frame-up, Trotzky and his sympathizers especially seek to discredit the testimony of the convicted plotters. They use many arguments, often of a most fantastic character, to prove that the confessions of the 17 defendants in this trial, as well as those of the 16 in the Zinoviev-Kamenev trial which preceded it, were all manufactured and part of a gigantic frame-up.

In previous pages we have seen that it would have been both politically and physically impossible to organize these trials as a frame-up, and now, in looking into the matter of these defendants' confessions, we shall see that a frame-up was also psychologically impossible.

Defenders of Trotzky charge that the confessions were wheedled or forced out of the men on trial, and they allege various ways by which this was done, all contradictory to each other. Most of these contentions are too absurd to require any refutation, such as the "theories" that the men were doped with an oriental "truth drug," that they had been subjected to a sinister light treatment, that they had been hypnotized, that black magic had been practiced upon them, that they were victims of a mass confession hysteria, that their admissions of guilt were an expression of the mysterious slav soul, etc., etc.

One widely expanded "explanation" has it that the defendants voluntarily sacrificed themselves upon the altar of socialism; that is, they confessed upon Stalin's bidding in order to discredit Trotzky and to strengthen generally the position of the Soviet Government at home and abroad. What a megalomaniac Trotzky is to consider himself so important that all these men would take their place before a firing squad just to ruin him politically. And how absurd to assert that these hard-boiled Trotzkyite leaders, who had been fighting Stalin for years, would suddenly agree to die in disgrace for the sake of him and his policies. Such drivel is fodder for morons.

No Promises

Another favorite Trotzkyite "analysis" of the confessions is that they were cajoled out of the men on trial by promises of leniency. But this, too, does not hold water any better than a sieve. Take the 16 defendants in the Zinoviev-Kamenev trial: They were experienced leaders, they knew quite well that there was surely a penalty of death for the crimes of political assassination and industrial wrecking and, consequently, they could not have failed to clearly realize that they, by confessing to these major offenses, were walking straight to their execution.

The Trotzkyites claim, however, that the Zinovievites were double-crossed; that is, that they were first promised leniency and then shot. But what about the 17 defendants in the Piatakov-Radek trial, several months later? They also were intelligent men, sophisticated leaders and determined opponents of the Stalin regime. It is utterly incredible that these men, with the fate of Zinoviev and the others fresh in their minds, could possibly have been induced by any kind of promises to plead guilty to the monstrous crimes which they committed.

The whole "promise" theory is thus utterly untenable. But this does not trouble Trotzky at all. Perhaps some unthinking people will believe it nevertheless. And for those who do not swallow this one, Trotzky has plenty more flimsy "explanations." One of the most publicized of these is that the men were terrorized into confessing.

No Terrorism

But this "terror" theory also will not bear examination. Firstly, there was not the slightest bodily sign upon the defendants to even suggest that they had been subjected to external physical or mental torture of any kind. Secondly, not one of them in the course of the extended testimony gave the least indication that he had been terrorized. This fact is very important. It must be remembered that the defendants, notwithstanding the crimes they had committed against socialism, were men who had formerly passed through many revolutionary struggles and were inured to hardship and danger. Surely one out of the 33 of them would have shown courage enough to protest at the trial, and thereby to the whole world, if his confession had been extorted from him by force. Such an individual, in any event, could not have had anything to fear in the way of physical harm from his jailers, and certainly not when supported by the world capitalist press. The reason that no such statement was made was because there had been no terror whatever used against the defendants, and if any one of those on trial had made such an accusation he would have been overwhelmingly proved a liar by the very man on trial with him.

In the celebrated Reichstag fire trial Dimitroff showed by his bold defiance of the Fascists that revolutionists do not quail before terror, and the brave Rakosi, in his recent trial, likewise demonstrated that his revolutionary spirit has not been broken after many years in Hungarian Fascist dungeons. Thaelmann in Germany and Prestes in Brazil will, we may be positive, show the same indomitable spirit when they are brought to trial. If the Trotzkyite leaders were revolutionists, as their friends maintain, how was it possible that they could have all remained silent, if they had been terrorized into confessing and let themselves go, without a protest to traitors' graves? The answer is that it was not possible.

The Real Basis of the Confessions

A sound analysis of the trials shows that it would have been psychologically impossible to secure the confessions from the Trotzkyite plotters by means of promises, terror or any of the bizarre methods alleged. The inescapable conclusion from an examination of the whole situation in that the confessions were voluntary and genuine.

Why, then, did the Trotzkyites confess? The true explanation is simple enough. They confessed because they were guilty; because the proof of their guilt that confronted them before the great tribunal of the revolution was so overwhelming that it left them no other alternative than confession.

A number of elements combined to make the Trotzkyites admit their crime, but promises, terror, "truth drugs," etc., were not among them. The principal immediate cause of their sense of guilt and their ultimate confessions lay in the fact that the group was politically bankrupt, and knew it. In the face of the tremendous advances of the Soviet Union on every front the old Trotzky theory that socialism could not be built in the USSR had become grotesque by its absurdity. Only needed to complete the bankruptcy of the Trotzky leaders, even in their own eyes, was the exposure of the Communists and all honest progressive and militants (including the most able and responsible Socialist mass leaders) the Socialist Party is lending effective support to groups who will stop at nothing in their effort to prevent the devolopment of a united working class and people's front.

Unity has made the Workers Alliance a powerful, influential organization. The results of unification of the unemployed organizations is proof of the need and possibility for unity in the common struggles of the masses on all fields. Those who value unity must recognize that it can be achieved and maintained only by constant struggle and complete defeat of all the agents of reactionary capitalism, or fascism, everywhere.

In the present moment the chief agents of the capitalists and fascists within the ranks of the working class are the counter-revolutionary Trotzkyite vermin. All honest workers must join to drive them out of our ranks! the plottings and their counter-revolutionary activities. When this was done in the preliminary investigations the road was thrown wide open to the confessions that eventually took place.

Some Really Repentant

It is clear from the testimony at the trials that a number of the defendants were genuinely repentant for the crimes they had committed against the revolution, and wanted to make reparation for what they had done. They were disillusioned with their political course and realized they had been led into a terrible trap by Trotzky. Such elements, who had long experience in the Leninist practice of self-criticism and admission of errors, would naturally take the lead in confessing the whole monstrous crime. Others of the defendants, who wanted to brazen the thing out, were thus confronted in these confessions with the certainty of being convicted in open court and of losing every possible chance for mercy. Thus they themselves in trun found it necessary to acknowledge their treason.

Radek, who in court was one of the most defiant of the defendants and who by his manner gave the lie completely to the Trotzkyist promise-terror-hypnotism theories of the trial, told how he was thus brought to make his admission of guilt. He said that for a long time in jail he refused to confess, as he did not want to compromise his friends among the accused; but he finally agreed to do so. He said:

"They told me, 'We have already got 15 depositions involving you, but if you want to gain time to think it over go ahead and think it over.' I thought it over for two and a half months. Then an investigator said, 'You are the last; so why waste time?' The next day I confessed."

We may be quite sure that the clever Radek made himself perfectly certain that the 15 depositions against him by his co-plotters were absolutely genuine and that he had no other way out, before he made the confession that condemned him as a traitor to the cause of socialism and covered his name with eternal shame.

From whichever way the Moscow trials are fairly examined, the thesis of frame-up is seen to be totally inapplicable. Let it be repeated that a frame-up of the defendants was politically, organizationally and psychologically impossible. The Brooklyn Eagle, which is no friend of the Union, says (Feb. 1):

"Harold Denny, correspondent of the New York Times, by no means sympathetic to Communism, repeated that he had tried in vain to detect a false note in the trials that would indicate 'staging' or rehersal."

The Trotzky criminals were guilty. The evidence against them was overwhelming and they could not escape it. They had a fair trial, according to Soviet law. They were convicted fairly and openly before the bar of the great revolution which they had betrayed, before the masses of the Russian people who had made every sacrifice for the sake of socialism. Any unfounded charges of frame-up will not save these traitors from the obloquy which they deserve, nor prevent the masses of toilers in every country from learning the counter revolutionary character of Trotzkyism which these trials have so clearly exposed.

Trotzkyite Disruptors at Work

Who Are Self-Appointed "Saviors" Of Workers Alliance of America?

About a month ago, announcement was made that there had been formed a "Provisional Committee for a Progressive Group in the Workers Alliance." This portentous announcement came in the form of a printed leaflet entitled "A Call to Militant Members of the Workers Alliance."

The authors of this leaflet were modest. They failed to reveal their indentity! But they were less modest and reserved in describing their "noble" purpose. According to their leaflet which they distributed in Washington at the time of the National Demonstration of June 15, they were sacrificing their energies and resources in order to "Make the Workers Alliance a fighting working class union, not a football for 'liberal' polticians."

The Workers Alliance of America is the organization that represents the many unemployed organizations that survived because they followed a policy of militant struggle against these politicians as a necessary part of their struggle for the basic needs of the unemployed.

The leadership of the Workers Alliance is composed of workers who have distinguished themselves, developed the ability to lead, and won the confidence of the militant rank and file, precisely because they proved through years of bitter struggle that they were the best fighters against all enemies of the working class.

It is of course true that the Workers Alliance and its leadership are not perfect. It is true that there is need for constant improvement and that this improvement must be achieved through constant frank self criticism by the membership and leadership of the organization. There is even need for improvement as far as making possible a better exchange of experience and criticism.

But it requires no group to do that which the organization as such and as a whole must do and is trying to do. These are some of the reasons why the National Executive Board of the Workers Alliance, unanimously and correctly declared that:

"We consider the Provisional Committee for a Progressive Group . . . is an unprincipled group, engaged in a malicious effort to disrupt the Workers Alliance as a united organization of unemployed and WPA workers and we conclude from the contents of the leaflet, as well as the manner in which it was distributed, that the group responsible for it has nothing in common with the best interests of the Workers Alliance."

Trotzkyist Disruption and Double-Dealing

Although the authors of this leaflet preferred to hide their indentity, it was not difficult to determine who was behind this unprincipled, malcious attempt to disrupt the united organization of unemployed and WPA workers. Even of those who distributed the leaflet in Washington had remained unindentified, a mere reading of the leaflet, observation of the manner in which it was distributed and defended, would be sufficent to identify the leaflet and its sponsors as the products of Trotzkyism.

Who else would attempt to disrupt an organization which represents a successful achievement of the united front for which the Communist Party is fighting? Who else would use the methods of the agent provocateur within a militant working class organization? Who else would try to conceal the ugly purpose of such an attack by using "ultra-revolutionary" phrases and urging an "ultra-leftist" program?

Who else would try to justify the introduction of dissension and factionalism on the grounds that "the Workers Alliance leadership has adopted a policy of playing off the so-called 'liberal' politicians against the 'so-called' (!) reactionary politicians"? Who else would make the supid and irresponsible charge that when the Workers Alliance organized the biggest mass demonstration in Washington since the National Hunger March of 1932, it is pursuing the policy of a "People's Lobby, which carries petitions, hat in hand, to the 'liberal' politicians"?

Who else would try to discredit and sabotage the fight of the unemployed for expansion of the Works Program by arguing that "The Workers Alliance fails to recognize that WPA is a method of cutting relief standards"!? (Average wages on WPA are $52 a month, average direct relief amounts to $21.73 a month per family.)

Surely some of our Socialist friends who cannot understand how Trotzky, Zinoviev, Radek, et al., could have organized assassinations in view of their professed abhorence of such tactics, might well pause to think of their own experience with the Trotzkyist vermin whom they have admitted into the Socialist Party and Workers Alliance.

Makes Trotzkyism A Greater Menace

In the month that has passed since the plan to split the Workers Alliance was first openly announced, the Trotzkyists have greatly intensified their disruptive activity. The "Provisional Committee" has become the "Progressive Left Wing." Through their Socialist Party connections, they have been able to obtain mailing lists and circularize the units of the Alliance.

Since they have no base in the membership of the organization, they are not at all discouraged by the fact that their communications have been met with condemnation wherever they have been received. On the contrary, they intensify their efforts to disseminate their irresponsible, malicious slander in the hope that they may somehow, somewhere secure support. To this end, they announce plans to publish their own newspaper. It is evident that, since they have no support in the membership of the Alliance, their financial support comes from some outside source.

Unfortunately in this as in other instances, the Socialists show greater concern about preserving the "democratic rights" of the Trotzkyites than to safeguard the interests of the membership of the Workers Alliance and of the masses of unemployed and WPA workers whom the Alliance must serve. While recognizing the despicable purpose of the Trotzkyist disrupters, the Socialists still insist that they must treat them as Socialist comrades.

Accordingly, therefore, the Socialists allow these disrupters to help determine the policy that is to be pursued in meeting the admittedly malicious effort to disrupt the united organization of the unemployed. As a consequence, the Socialists not only fail to take vigorous steps to expose the Trotzkyist wrecking crew, but on the contrary, take occasion to come to their defense when honest workers denounce these vile traitors.

The Socialists accept at face value the claim of the Trotzkyites that they are not associated with the "Progressive Group." They allow themselves to be misled by the fact that the individual who now signs himself as secretary of the group is one of the Trotzkyites who has not yet joined the Socialist Party. But they choose to overlook the fact that the Trotzkyists who are within the S.P. make the same arguments, and follow the same course as those who have openly associated themselves with this disruptive group.

Socialist Call and The Trotzkyites

The Socialist Call has made no mention of this sinister attempt to split the unemployed movement. On the contrary, it has gleefully reported distorted accounts of Trotzkyist "victories" over "Communists" in the Workers Alliance. The Socialist Call has failed to report the fact that the Trotzkyists obstructed and prevented affiliation of the Minneapolis unemployed organizations, despite the pleas of David Lasser, leading Socialist and president of the Workers Alliance, who made two trips to Minnesota for this purpose. The Socialist Call was silent when the Trotzkyist sheet "Labor Action" published a slanderous report to the effect that it was Lasser and Benjamin who tried to split the unemployed movement of Minnesota.

The Socialist Call has been silent about the attempt of the New Jersey Trotzkyites to prepare a split in the Workers Alliance of that State by rejecting the official membership books of the Alliance on the grounds that it carries an endorsement of independent political action through a Farmer-Labor Party. But, it gleefully reports the "victory" of these same Trotzkyites in that "Support of Labor's Non-Partisan League and a People's Front policy was defeated" and that the Trotzkyist splitters Kaempf, Rosenberg and "other Socialists" were elected to the State Executive Board in the New Jersey Alliance.

In the same manner, the Socialist Call of the previous week carried a report under a gleeful headline "Ohio Jobless Heads Given Clean Slate." This was a falsified inaccurate account of the trial before the Ohio Board of charges against the Trotzkyists Selander, Preiss and others. According to this account the serious charges against these leading disruptionists, which were brought and supported by honest non-party workers, represented " a deliberate attempt by the Communist clipue to frame them up."

The Struggle for Unity

These are but a few of many possible examples of the manner in which the Socialist Party lends aid and comfort to enemies of the working class and of their mass organizations. No one can claim that the Socialist Party and the Socialists in the Workers Alliance are behind the "Progressive Left Wing in the Workers Alliance." On the contrary that group is waging war against the honest Socialists as well as against the Communists who have built and who continue to build the united organization of the unemployed.

But it is nevertheless a fact that by giving the Trotzkyists the protection of Socialist Party membership; by taking the position that the Trotzkyists must therefore be supported against

Alliance Band

LOS ANGELES—The Workers' Alliance is organizing a brass band.

All musicians who wish to play in the band are asked to send a post card to 121½ South Broadway, stating the name, address, and instrument.

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$7.50 Book Prize in Contest!—S.F. Inland Boatman in Progress

Workers' Correspondence Page

Parker Dam Organizing — Alameda Politics — Alaska Miners

Enter This Contest!

WORKERS GET FREE CHANCE AT BIG PRIZE

Just Write on What "Western" Means To YOU

The Workers correspondents' contest — the one you've been waiting for—is off with a bang with this issue!

Mention of the prize should start you working right away—it's "Soviet Communism," by Sidney and Beatrice Webb, two invaluable volumes that sell at $7.50!

The contest starts now and lasts until April 15.

THE RULES

1. Your entry is a letter to the Workers' Correspondence Editor, Western Worker, 121 Haight St., San Francisco, telling what the "Western" means to you and your fellow workers in factory, dock, ship, farm or neighborhood.

2. Letters must have name and address of writer. Names and addresses will NOT be published in the "Western."

3. Letters will be published from time-to-time on this page; write them as long as you please, but we may have to condense some of them for publication.

4. Letters must be postmarked before midnight, April 15, to be eligible.

A FEW TIPS

You will have more to write about and a better chance to win, if you do the following:

1. Write up a story about some happening, issue, or general conditions in the factory where you work, or in your union; in the agricultural fields; in your farm area; or in your neighborhood.

2. Send in your story to the Workers' Correspondence Editor and at the same time order a bundle, small or large as you can handle for sale or distribution among your fellow workers or neighbors.

3. "Follow up" by contacting your fellow workers or neighbors to whom you have sold the "Western" containing your story, and asking them what they think of the "Western" and how it helps them in their day-to-day struggles. This last point will give you the best possible material to write about in your contest letter.

The Workers' Correspondence Editor will print as many stories as physically possible and also as many letters as possible ,and will cooperate with all advice and suggestions any competitor wants.

It's your contest for a real prize—get into the thick of it today!

ALAMEDA "BEST FAMILIES" GRIP LABOR'S RIGHTS

But Workers Organize Fight Against Labor-Haters

By a Worker Correspondent

ALAMEDA—For your information on the city government here, it must be understood that there are very few factories or large plants in this town.

But there are quite a few people living here who are bosses of one sort or another in shops and offices in Oakland and San Francisco. Also there are a number of families who have lived here for a generation or two and have gotten wealthy in real estate swindling of one kind or another, and naturally these "best families" have a very firm grip on the city government.

People Will Win Out

These same families have a large and determined hatred of the working class and their organizations, and they have made up their minds that "their" city will not be under the grip of anything like that.

Nevertheless, organization work is going on all the time, and in time it will be possible to get a city administration that will be more democratic and progressive than it is at present.

To illustrate the bootlicking attitude of the city council, a short time ago there was a picket line put around the Hunter Boat Co. at the foot of Park St., and a few scabs tried to get through. In the resulting action one of the scabs was mussed up and a car overturned.

Unions Can Bring "Union Lumber Co." to Time!

By a Farmer

FORT BRAGG—Here is a town where credit, social standing, and jobs are based on one consideration—to be a good slave of the Union Lumber Company.

Unless you are willing to put your neck into the yoke and fall into the clock step, you had better leave Fort Bragg, Mendocino County.

The chief of police is a former woods boss transferred to his present job for a reason which is to use the power of the law to force men to work for whatever wages pleases the Union Lumber Company.

Strong unions and a Farmer-Labor Party are the answer.

STORE CLERKS IN LONG BEACH SEEKING UNION

Labor Council Must Be Asleep, Says Correspondent

By a Worker Correspondent

LONG BEACH—I am writing the WESTERN WORKER to try and find out how workers here in Long Beach in department and chain stores can be organized.

In one certain chain store, in talking to a Negro worker, I found the boys in that store all wanted to join some kind of a union. This worker said the Los Angeles branch had been visited by some union representatives, but since the one visit had not been back to organize.

Why They Want Union

He also stated the workers in this certain chain store were very much excited and ready at the "drop of a hat" to join, as were the employees of the store here in Long Beach.

They are working 12 hours on week days and 14 hours on Saturdays with very small pay—the highest being, I believe he said, $18 a week. So you can really see why they want a union.

In a department store here also, an employee I talked to stated all employees were ready but as most of them were supporting families, they were afraid of what might happen, but although the hours are only eight in this store, the pay isn't so hot.

Labor Council Asleep

It seems to me the Central Labor Council here is very much asleep. I know if they were busy, these stores could have been organized long ago, for no one in Long Beach connected with labor unions has tried to start a union, so I'm told by these men I spoke to.

I don't know what can be done, but something must be done right away while these workers have other successful strikes still fresh in their minds.

Our Farmer-Labor Party cannot grow very strong as long as we leave things like this undone—and we all know that we must, if we wish to go forward, have a Farmer-Labor Party by our next national election—and one way we can help is to organize the employees in every department and chain store in our land.

Banning Tunnel Workers Seek Pay Increase

By a Tunnel Worker

BANNING—We are still negotiating for more dough with the Metropolitan Water District officials. There is no definite information yet, but there will be a raise given.

We voted for 20 per cent pay increase, recognition of our local 270, Tunnel, Subway and Aqueduct Workers.

Because Cops Didn't Club Pickets

For once in their lives at least, the police used their heads and didn't rush in and start clubbing the pickets.

The owners of the boat shop made a howl to the city council, and they promptly called the cops on the carpet and put six of them back on the graveyard watch and on the worst beats. This is the reward these men got for using their heads a little.

PROGRESSIVE MEETING OF FERRY UNION

Members Learn Need For Control by Rank-and-File

By An Inland Boatman

SAN FRANCISCO — At the last meeting, Feb. 24, of the Inland Boatmen's Union, a most interesting thing happened—apparently a few of the old-line reactionaries suddenly became liberal.

The best in its line was at this meeting, the dismissal wage agreement was disclosed in its true light, showing how the company can construe the provisions as they see fit.

Membership Sees Bureaucracy

Also the policies of the officials of the union were uncovered to the view of the membership, in which every move is made to destroy rank-and-file control—how the new constitution and by-laws place power into the hands of two men, while one of these (Deal) controls the other (Stillings), thus placing control in the hands of a monarch.

These two men compose the Executive Committee, whose authority it is to pass judgment on all violations and grievances. No appeal can be taken from their decision, which is final.

The encouraging thing about it all is the desire of the rank-and-file to take control, so long denied them; it was voiced from all quarters of the hall.

Remember Elections

We all hope that these progressive meetings will continue, and that when the election comes around this fall, the progressives will reap their hard-won reward.

More and more the Inland Boatmen realize that they can come into the Maritime Federation, only as progressives help to gain rank-and-file control. See what it has done for all other maritime unions on the Pacific Coast.

Everybody was entering into the discussion and expressing themselves as they should. For many years, it was difficult to get anyone on the floor to do this, but this meeting was different—very enlightening and encouraging. Let us strive to keep the meethigs as interesting and as progressive as the one held two weeks ago.

—One Who Believes in Rank-and-File Control.

U. S. SMELTING CO. OPPRESSES MEN IN ALASKA

Pits Worker Against Worker For Jobs; Union Needed

By a Worker Correspondent

FAIRBANKS, Alaska — Every spring an over-supply of laborers comes into the interior of Alaska. This over-supply usulaly means that there are 10 men to every job; consequently, thos ewho are working are compelled to do two men's work, and if a man is unable to work under this strain, the job is giyn to one who can.

The F. E. Company, local branch of the U. S. Smelting & Refining Co., which handles most of the gold mining in the Fairbanks district, likes to see these poor suckers at their door every morning in line looking for a job.

Low Pay for Hard Work

The wages for common labor are $5 a day, plus board, for nine and 10 hours work, and this pay is for those that are driving points in the frozen ground or in the mud up to thier necks all day long.

Therefore, the men coming up here spend $200 to go in search of such a job, and the chances are that in the end they get nothing, so the transportation company gets them coming and going.

Only strong union organization can remedy this situatoin.

Pass "Western" On!

When you finish reading this issue of the Western Worker, pass it on to your fellow worker in your shop or to your friend or neightbor. Then, when he's read it, ask him to subscribe.

They Flee to Escape Fascist Murder



SPANISH women and children are not spared in the Fascist bombardment of civilian quarters of Madrid. These Madrid residents are moving to a safe quarter.

LABOR AND POLITICS

In California and Nationally

By John Broman

SOME 12 OR 13 YEARS AGO, California took the lead in the United States in passing important social legislation, by being the first state to ratify the Child Labor Amendment to the Constitution.

The road to national prominence for progressive legislation now lies along the road of the California People's Legislative Conference—passing of such bills as outlawing anti-picketing ordinances, prohibiting transportation of strikebreakers across county lines, repealing the Criminal Syndicalism Act, abolishing "Jim Crow" bars against the Negro people, repeal of the sales tax, etc.

California can make national history with this program, if the people insist that their assemblymen and state senators support these bills.

Not Very Liberal . . .

How liberal is the "liberal" San Francisco News? Not very liberal, if you look at their recommendations on last Tuesday's city charter amendments and propositions.

For example, the S. F. News is against police pensions increase, as are Police Chief Quinn and the police commissioners and Mayor Rossi; for the reorganization of the police department, which would centralize police powers in the hands of Chief Quinn, and which has many objectionable features from labor's viewpoint; for increasing the salaries of the supervisors, a part-time job; and for No. 18, which concealed an attempt to run in the one-man trolley bus, which is so cordially hated by the people of San Francisco.

The News did finally come out in favor of No. 19, repeal of the anti-picket ordinance, but only at the last moment, after much pressure had been exerted by organized labor.

The "Democrat" of the "Times"

John Steven McGroarty, congressman from the 11th District, Los Angeles County, was elected as a Democrat.

Recently McGroarty took "advantage of my position as a member of The Times (L. A.) staff" to write a long article attacking President Roosevelt's measures to curb the autocratic Supreme Court.

The Times is one of the most reactionary, anti-labor, Republican newspapers in the U. S.

Conclusion: The Democratic Party is no party for labor or the people generally, and McGroarty is an object lesson for the organization of a Farmer-Labor Party.

Where to Cut Taxes . . .

Controller Harry B. Riley has reported receipts in sales taxes of nearly $42,000,000, and receipts in bank, corporation and insurance company taxes of only a little more than $11,000,000.

In Sacramento talk is developing for cutting tax rates—the reactionary Republicans and Democrats in the State Legislature want to cut the bank, corporation and insurance company taxes, and income taxes, and only want to cut the sales tax by one-sixth.

Our Communist tax program is, quite naturally, the opposite—abolish the sales tax altogether, and hike up the taxes on the rich to finance current expenses and also to finance more social legislation such as unemployment relief, old-age pensions, California Youth Act, etc.

Our tax program is not revolutionary, although the bankers and industrialists may scream "confiscatory," but is a program that every working man and woman, every poor farmer, every middle-class person, can endorse whole-heartedly as the program which will help the people at the expense of those who can afford to pay, the rich.

The reactionary Democrats and the Republicans in Sacramento talk as if they are going to present a great gift to all the people in their tax-cutting program. It's always wise to look a gift horse in the mouth, and if you look at this "gift" you will find that it has teeth that bite only into the working people.

"Big 4" Tobacco Companies Profit —Not Workers

By a Tobacco Worker

SAN FRANCISCO — Two of the "Big Four" tobacco companies recently issued financial reports for 1936, and both show profits that make the treasury of Croesus look like the treasury of a child's toy bank.

Both show increasing profits, yet neither one has said a word about increasing wages to their "faithful employees," as the San Francisco plant bosses call them. If the workers talk about unionism, it may result in their services being "not required."

Wages Low—High Speedup

Liggett and Meyers showed in their report a net income for 1936 of $2,427,632, after interest, federal income taxes, federal taxes on undistributed profits, and many other items are charged off.

This is more profits by far than the net income of the same company for 1935, and no increase was made in wages, though the men and women employed in these sweat-shops are required to work much harder since the speedy machinery was installed in most plants in the latter part of 1933.

I work in the local Liggett & Meyers plant, and I know what I'm talking about.

This huge increase in profits is due to installation of new speed-up machinery, with no increase in the necessary labor power or in wages.

SAN FRANCISCO ENTERTAINERS FORMING LOCAL

Pay Low As $1.50 A Day on "Star-Dust" Trail

By a Worker Correspondent

SAN FRANCISCO — Music, dancing, lights—a table for two—an atmosphere of sophisticated gaiety and romance. The Silver Cuspidor Club invites you to be our honored guest for the evening (Adv.). So we came.

At a table we called for refreshments—"called," because the waiter was so busy he had to take orders on the run. Later we noticed there were only a few waiters and just a few girls operating from the service bar. They had to bus the tables as well.

Presently the floor show was on.

Organizing a Union

We naturally wanted to find out what it's like to make a living as an entertainer. I knew one of the girls, so we got to talking and inquired about working conditions.

"Well," they said, "yes and no, but mostly no! Haven't you heard?"

"Yes, we heard—you're organizing."

Further discussion brought out that in San Francisco today there are people working for as little as $1.50 per day. In Los Angeles, there are entertainers working in cafes, bars and clubs simply for their meals and whatever they can pick up in tips.

"What Price Art?"

Another told of how he applied for a singing job. He was expected to work in the kitchen five hours a day besides the time spent on his act.

There are cases, so common to all who make their living in this game, where an employer hamstrings along saying he would like to see a tryout first. Well, a tryout is booked, but somehow the boss, a very busy man, just wasn't able to be there that night. This may go on for two or three days.

Foul Trick

Often he's seen the act already some place else. Eventually, however, he gets around to saying that his second assistant manager or something informed him that the act wasn't going over so good—very sorry, but he can't engage them this time, maybe later if they brush it up a little.

Among entertainers this is well known as a racket. It means the employer gets at least a night's performance without paying a cent for it, since tryouts are done gratis. The workers are left holding the bag.

Until the entertainers can get together like the musicians, actors, writers, newspaper men, technicians, etc.; until they can get over the impression they are artists; until they realize the economic system under which they live stifles every artistic impulse—only until then will they as a group ever be anything but individuals sitting around hoping for the breaks—before they starve. The star-dust trail is lined with corpses.

Union Will Do the Trick

But they declare the time is in view when there will be no more hustling drinks for the house between performances and mingling with the customers, as often the girls are expected to do; no more tryouts up blind alleys; no more getting stranded on the road without funds, because there will be a fund established to take care of that, as well as sick and death benefit funds,

You can go down to the Musicians' Union, 230 Jones St., 2nd floor. Any day will do, but on Mondays at 1, the general membership meetings are held.

STRIKE CASE IN PASADENA NOW "OFF CALENDAR"

"Red-Baiting" By Prosecutor Proved to Be Boomerang

By a Worker Correspondent

PASADENA—On last December 28, Tom Lemin, a seaman, and Earl Tennery, sympathizer of the maritime strikers, were arrested while handing out "Maritime Strike News" at the Raymond Theater, pleaded not guilty, and were held on $500 bail.

On February 24, before a court room packed to overflowing, the case was declared "off calendar."

Previously, when a representative of the Maritime Federation from San Pedro attempted to see Lemin, he was contacted by Pasadena's red-baiting City Prosecutor, Joselyn, who "advised" them to have nothing to do with the case as Tennery was a Communist and it would damage the union.

Red-Baiting is Losing its Punch

In spite of the "walloping" that reactionaries and red-baiters received in the November 3rd election, he kept it up until the last date of trial.

A Pasadena trade union local sent a delegation to attend the trial. They also were contacted by the prosecutor, who is "saving Pasadena from the reds," and "advised" that this was not a labor issue, "but only a Communist publicity stunt." It did NOT take. One delegate remarked later that he would support the boys in this case "even if they were Republicans."

Pasadena labor is organizing and recognizing the value of SOLIDARITY. At this time workers of al categories should demand, under the leadership of the trade unions, the repeal of the "hand-bill ordinance," in its present form, and direct representation on the City Board of Directors.

Unemployed And Field Seasons

By a Worker Correspondent

SAN FRANCISCO—In accord with a statement made by the AFL to the capitalist press, the total unemployed in this country up to the month of January is 10,041,000.

According to other information, an increase of six and one-half millions will be added to this figure in February, March and April.

This is partly due to a lull in the agricultural season when almost all agricultural work ceases with a few exceptions, one being the hopfields which start work about the middle of February, also the spraying and replanting of fruit trees.

Other places such as fruit canneries are completely shut down during this season.

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RESERVE THIS DATE — MARCH 27. OUTSTANDING AFFAIR OF THE YEAR.

Annual Commemoration of the Paris Commune will be held by the International Labor Defense at the Cultural Center, 230 S. Spring St., Friday, March 19, at 8 p. m. Leo Gallagher, main speaker.

26 volumes of Lenin-Russian-New. For $10 donation Spain—$5 to me. Write Jennie Gorman, Gen. Deliv., Los Angeles.

WESTERN YOUTH

Published Bi-Weekly in the Western Worker for the Young Communist League of California.

Around the League

By Benny's Ghost

HAIL and farewell temporarily to the usual author of this column, Brother Dobbs. Just a ghost of his former self, the Dobbs is now vacationing somewhere in California. Don't think that Sir Ben has a pie-card either. When you can talk that guy into taking a vacation, that means he's so worn down he can't slap you down.

Benny breathed a few last sobbing desperate words in our ear as they carted him off to the mountains. Says Dobbs, "The money, guy, the money."

From the look in his eyes, we could tell he meant the money to send delegates to the National Convention. Communications established with the Waterfront Branch in San Francisco and the Lincoln Steffens Branch at the U. of California. Each of them has collected about half the money for one delegate. That man Archie Brown and his wife did a lot of collecting on the front.

But listen, are we mice or men? Why don't you send in that dough as soon as you get it to the state ofice. It will be put aside in the account of your branch. But we have to have the money in here to plunk down for the bus company.

* * *

The college boys is cuttin' up again. Seen and heard at an East' Bay membership meetin—George, Rommen and President Boyd, with picket signs—"Elect me to the national convention—a square deal for the students." And smoking cigars.

That may be a little early yet. But other branches take note. You ought to elect your delegates to the convention beginning on April 1—campaigns to last until the end of the second week of April.

* * *

Herr Professor Alexander of the YCL's Department of Education also wrings his hands these days. He pounces on the mailman every morning, runs his hands through his hair, but still results are meager. He's waiting for the branches to send in reports of their pre-convention discussion for publication, then resolutions for the convention.

* * *

Did you say "new line"? Yes, I said new line.

And the Tom Mooney branch of San Francisco is going at it with a vengeance. During their pre-convention discussion they decided that their branch is duller than a Los Angeles "high fog". So they're forming several interest groups—mostly a chorus and a drama group so far. It was Tom Mooney's comrade Gwen who put over that skit at the Frisco membership and its the same gal who's lining up the Thespians for a permanent troup. They've got a couple of original plays too, supplied by Clint and his frau.

* * *

Our rural neighbors from Redwood City also 'came' to town last week. Larry, the Redwood City president (who's as earnest and hardworking a comrade as any of the city slickers) brought sixteen members up to San Francisco for a theatre party to see "Battle Hymn."

* * *

Good news from the north woods. Eureka's as tough a town on progressives as any. A couple of kids got together and decided to put out a progressive paper, the Youth Leader. They did. And the thing went over so big that they were able to organize a group of 80 young people to talk over the "Leader" and its platform.

Why doesn't your branch put out a bulletin?

* * *

Flashes: the Los Angeles YCL raised $200 for gas masks for Spain — The San Pedro YCL turned in $5—Best wishes to Dorothy Zadow, one of the best, recovering from an appendix operation in the Cedars of Lebanon Hospital — The student branches of Los Angeles held a conference on Sunday, February 28. Congratulations to the first president of the first student division of the YCL in our state, Vivian Levin, who deserves the honor and new responsibilities.

Many thanks to the anonymous comrade from Lincoln Steffens Branch who sent in $5 to aid the "Champion of Youth" in its hour of need. Says he, "The last issue was swell."

AAU OFFICIAL IN PRAISE OF LABOR SPORTS

"Should Take More Active Part in The Future"

"If the establishment by labor of organizations like the Union Recreation Center is necessary to bring out the athletic talent in the unions, then by all means let's have more outfits like the Center," declared Al. Sandell, San Francisco chairman of the Pacific Athletic Union, West Coast division of the Amateur Athletic Union.

The San Francisco sportsman said: "Labor should officially take a more active part in the sports movement than it has in the past. The Center's recent triumphs in sports circles should certainly strike a keynote for more of just such activity. There is a woeful lack of labor teams in amateur athletic tournaments but a great wealth of talent in the labor movement."

Follows Shelley

This statement following an equally encouraging declaration by John Shelley, president of the Central Labor Council, is expected to encourage further the calling of a conference to push labor sports.

The Union Recreation Center soccer team is in second place in the Golden Gate Soccer league competition, while its basketball team copped first honors in the Class B division of the City Recreation League.

The Center will enter a card in the forthcoming Pacific Athletic Union tryouts for the national AAU Boxing Tourney.

"Front," the new labor sports magazine issued by the URC, will throw a first annual Hijinks Ball on April 1.

Young Irish Group Takes the Name of Kevin Berry

DUBLIN, Ireland—Kevin Barry, hero to countless Irish lads, has given his name and his reputation to a new Irish organization pledged to carry on the fight against British influence in the Free State.

Martyred at 18 by the British in 1920 when he was hanged for participating in the activities of the Irish Republican Army, Barry is now coming to life again in the Kevin Barry Youth Movement, pledged to fight for the "ideals of Connolly, Pearse and Mellows." The Irish Republican Army waged civil war against the foe from across the Irish Sea for years after the Easter Rebellion in 1916.

The new youth movement aims to unite the Irish children nursed on the labor ideals of James Connolly and the republicanism of Padriag Pearse, its founders declare. Both Connolly and Pearse were executed at the time of the 1916 rebellion, almost twenty one years ago.

The new group would seem to reflect the noticeable revival of the ancient Irish nationalism which has bitterly fought the British for centuries.

L.A. Students in Picket Line at Douglas Aircraft

LOS ANGELES—Ten cars of Los Angeles high school and college students joined the picket line at the Douglas Aircraft strike Saturday, March 6, under the leadership of the American Student Union.

The students brought canned food and cigarettes collected by the union chapters in the various schools.

Richard Coleman, CIO. organizer, and James Carter, strikers' attorney, spoke on the issues of the strike at the UCLA American Student Union meeting Sunday at the First Unitarian Church.

STANFORD AND CAL. APPROVE PEACE STRIKE

Students Respond to National Appeal For April 22

Decision by the Executive Committees of the student bodies at Stanford and the University of California to hold student peace meetings on April 22 at 11 AM as a part of the national student peace strike were the opening shots in the annual student peace campaign.

The call for a peace strike on April 22 has come from a national United Student Peace Committee consisting of the American Student Union, the National Student Federation of America, the student divisions of the YMCA and YWCA, the League of Nations Society, the Foreign Policy Association, the American League Against War and Fascism and the American Youth Congress.

The decision for a student meeting at California was interpreted as a significant victory since the authorities cancelled a previously scheduled 'administration-controlled meeting for that date.

Want Some That Went to Barbara

DETROIT—"I met a Million Dollar Union Baby in a 5 and 10 cent store!" It doesn't exactly fit the song, but, if you ask the sit down strikers now occupying the five and dime store here it's a big improvement over the original words.

The sit-down fever, generated by the auto strikers, in combination with long hours and low pay, finally got the gals. And brunettes, blonds and redheads, short, tall, lean and plump they're resting their tired dogs and sitting down in the Detroit Woolworth stores.

Walk by some night and you can hear them sing their own song, to the tune of "Madamoiselle from Armentieres,"

Barbara Hutton has the dough, parlez-vous
Where she get it, sure we know, parlez-vous
We slave at Woolworth's five and dime
The pay we get is sure a crime
Hinkey Dinkey Parlez Vous.

YOUTH FIGURE IN DRIVE FOR AGRICULTURE

Progressive Role is Taken at Labor Conference

Youth had its two days at the state-wide conference called by the State Federation of Labor in San Francisco to organize the agricultural and cannery workers. Outstanding were Lloyd Lehmann, from the Santa Clara Committee for Agricultural Organization; Marcella Ryan, Oakland Cannery Workers' Union; Pauline Gordon, organizer of the San Francisco Cannery and Preserve Workers' Union, and others from Sacramento.

Lehmann played an outstanding role on the floor in carrying the position of the progressives. After the conference, he outlined what the organization drive meant to the young people of the Santa Clara Valley.

"I went to San Jose State College," he told us. "A very large portion of the student body works in the canneries during the summer in order to earn enough money to go through school in the fall and winter."

He is a tall, well built young man.

He is the only youth elected to the executive board of the conference. Upon him was placed the honor and responsibility of representing the agricultural and cannery workers of the State in pleading for a State charter before the executive board of the State Federation of Labor.

AFL Delegate

Miss Ryan is a small, wiry young girl. She was one of the few youth delegates to the last AFL convention in Tampa. She is a delegate to the Alameda County Central Labor Council. She is largely responsible for building the largest cannery union in the country.

Miss Gordon is full of enthusiasm and energy. Girlish, despite her two gruelling years' work in Bay Area canneries, she is a popular figure among cannery workers in San Francisco. In a month's time she led the building of the Cannery local in the city from nothing to 150 members, while concluding an agreement with the Del Rey cannery company. "I have worked in nearly all the canneries in San Francisco," she said. "When the season starts the hardships of the work are terrible. I have worked for twelve and fourteen hours a day for two and three months straight, six and seven days a week.

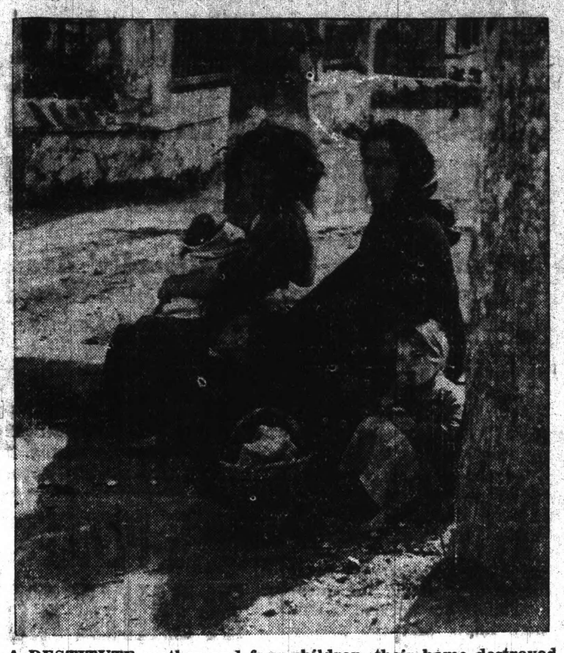
How They Work

"The canneries are hot. You stand in water up to your ankles. Sorting peas for twelve hours gets you so you can hardly stand up. There is no chance for young girls in the canneries to live a normal life in the season. Handling the sharp-edged cans cuts up your hands. The strong lye they put on the peaches gives you terrible rashes."

The thousands of young American, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian fellows and girls who slave through California's hot summers will soon lead a decent, happy, normal life if they "get wise and organize."

SUBSCRIBE TO THE "WESTERN WORKER"

The Fascists Made Them Homeless



A DESTITUTE mother and four children, their home destroyed by Fascist bombardment of Malaga, sit on a curbstone. Relief situation is acute, yet U. S. authorities seek to impede collection of relief funds.

Appeal to Calif. Youth for More Effort for Spain

Trifno Medrano, 21-year-old leader of the United Socialist Youth League, was killed by a bursting shell while on the Bilbao front. Medrano was a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Spain and the secretary of the Spanish Youth Communist League before its merger with the young Socialists.

Deeply moved by the news, Frank Carlson, state secretary of the Young Communist League, told the Western Worker: "Comrade Medrano was an outstanding leader of the Spanish young Communists.

"He was particularly responsible for the work which led to the unity of young Socialists and Communists in Spain.

"As a young Communist leader, he died in the front line trenches. If the leader of the Spanish young Communists was in that place of honor, at the head of the fight for democracy, why cannot our own American young Communists, facing far less serious risks and difficulties, also be at the head of the movement for Spanish democracy in this State?

"Young Communists in Spain fight in the trenches. Young Communists and all young people in California must fight here.

"California youth can make up for this loss to the Spanish people at least in a small way by continuing the work for Spain now that the youth delegates' meetings are over. Let's go ahead to collect money, food, clothing and medcial aid for the Spanish government!"

Students Forming Cooperatives

At Cal Tec., at Chico State, at College of Pacific, and at San Jose State College groups of young people are working on the formation of cooperative rooming and boarding houses.

In the absense of any comprehensive student help plan by the government these young people have taken this means of helping them get an education.

They plan to rent a house, do their own cooking, dishwashing, scrubbing, furnace-tending, cat-putting-out, etc. Expenses will be figured at the end of the year and all savings will be rebated.

Young People Most Against Lynching

Young people, more than any other group, want the enactment of a federal anti-lynching law, accrding to a poll taken by the American Institute of Public Opinion.

While the nation on the whole was revealed as being 70% for the anti-lynching measure, young people were listed as being 77% for and 23% opposed. Besides young people, the Institute polled women, relief clients, farmers, small towners, and the urban population.

The southern states were listed as 65% "yes" and 35% answering "no" to the question, "Should Congress enact a law which would make lynching a federal crime?"

MORE DRILLING FOR BOYS OF CCC

More than 55,000 enrollees in the Ninth Corps Area of the Civil Convervation Camps, which include eight Western states, will come more strictly under Army supervision as a result of a letter from Maj. Gen. George S. Simonds establishing educational committees in each of the 331 camps in the region.

The committees will consist of the camp commander, the camp educational advisor, the project superintendent and one enrollee to be selected by the camp commander. The commitees are instructed to meet at least twice per month to coordinate all educational activities.

First Sitdown in San Francisco Is Won by Youth

Youth of San Francisco copped honors for the first sit-down strike in the city when 47 young men and women on an NYA book project returned to work Wednesday morning after a one-day stay in had forced National Youth Administration officials to grant the strikers demands.

Noel McKay, 19, chairman of the strike committee, and executive secretary of the Northern California Assembly of Youth outlined the causes and results of the strike.

"As a part of the whole policy of cutting down on National Youth Administration benefits, plans were afoot to "reclassify' the people on our project. 'Reclassification' would have meant that the workers on our project, now classed as professionals at $24.80 per month, would have been shifted to another project at lower wages."

Mrs. Strauss, San Francisco NYA administrator, and Paul Russell, state supervisor of work porjects finally gave the strikers assurance that they would be transfered to another project without any reduction in pay.

A few hours after the strike started on Tuesday at 901 Potrero Street, members of the Tom Mooney Branch of the Young Communist League responded by bringing a radio to the strikers.

S. Diego Employees Ask Pay Increases

SAN DIEGO — Citing recent price increases, San Diego city employees are demanding higher wages before the Civil Service Commission.

Send us news of your union.

Hearings on State Youth Act April 9; Passed in Olympia

April 9 has been set as the date for the committee hearings on the California Youth Act, to be held in Sacramento, the executive committee of the Assembly of Youth announced. A series of dances throughout California will serve as send-offs for delegates from youth organizations to the hearings.

More than 500 young people, from all parts of the State, are expected to appear as a mass delegation before the Assembly Committee to testify to the definite need and urgency for such an act.

After the hearing the young people plan to send a delegation to the Governor, while at the same time the delegates will visit their individual Senators and Assemblymen.

'Mock legal-appearing "subpoenas" are being sent to organizations and prominent individuals requesting that they appear at the hearings to testify.

Passed In Washington

Added zest was given to the work of the Assembly of Youth in their drive for the California Youth Act by the news from Olympia, Wash., that a similar bill had been passed by the Washington state house of representatives.

The Assembly of Youth is planning a weekly bulletin on the progress of the bill in the legislature, as well as issuing windshield stickers and bumper cards. They also hope to have at least one state-wide radio broadcast on the act.

Jewish Youth Vote To Joint League Against Fascism

The Young People's League of the United Synagogue of America voted to affiliate to the American League Against War and Fascism at the annual convention of the youth organization in Washington last week.

The affiliation resolution was passed on the floor of the convention in seminars on Peace, Communism, Fascism and Democracy and Cooperation.

The Young People's League includes most of the young people's groups meeting in synagogues througout the North American continent. The total membership is over 30,000.

The affiliation now awaits ratification by the National Executive Committee.

Are You?

Are you an F.C.Y.E.I.? Remedy this terrible condition by reading the February Youth Edition of the Communist. Don't be a February Communist Youth Edition Ignoramus!

Pre-Convention Discussion

Some Fun Along With Deep Stuff

By ISABELLE BROWN and LUELLA ROSS

The Jack London Branch of Los Angeles, trying to make the branch a colorful youth club, has organized a group whose main work is developing attractive features.

Our pre-convention discussion was opened by applying a section of Gil Green's report to our problem. Our educational director spoke of "how we must develop a greater variety in forms of education." Particularly he stressed the need for a more human approach in this phase of our work. A lighter vein must be brought into our teaching methods, particularly with new members' classes.

He found that by evening, the comrades, after the day's grind, needed some fun along with serious study and so the group decided to give a banana split to the best student of the evening. You should have seen them work for the prize!

Put Up a Sign

The leader of the group that is concentrating on building a branch inner life told of the things that are already being done in the group. First, our center must become a lively neighborhood factor. It must be made attractive both in appearance and in the activity that goes on within it. We don't even have a sign on the outside. We are raising money to put one up as soon as possible.

A "Fix it, Make it Pretty Committee" is being organized. A window display on Spain, and other current topics would add attraction. Inside, the wall bulletin can be used for announcements, education and articles of general interest. Ping pong and checkers are already part of our fun, and we hope to have tournaments.

Weekly Dances

Some activity should be going on in the Center every evening. Among other things, we are going to start having weekly dances on Friday nights. In conjunction with the Circulation Library being instituted in the Center, there can be monthly book review socials with a variety of take-offs. There could be skits in connection with the theme of the book; if possible, a visit from the author.

We have immediate issues in which we can become a service organization in the neighborhood. For some time, various Eastside candidates, including Communist nominees, have been campaigning for a Junior College in our part of town; we can help. We should be the leaders in crystallizing the sentiment for five-cent fares. There is already a service organization growing up in our neighborhood; we can work within this organization, and use it as an example for that phase of our branch work.

What "Outsiders" Think

Our president spoke of the attitude the young people in his mass organization have toward us. Most of them are close to the YCL but refuse to join because they don't like us as people. When we develop a livelier organization, we can become the type of people that "outsiders" like to mingle with. He also mentioned the fact that when his organization was falling apart, he himself didn't have an exemplary YCL to guide him in resurrecting this organization.

We should bring our criticisms before the membership, and try always to make it as constructive as possible. The "Build the Branch Inner Life Group" makes a special point of "good and welfare" on its agenda to encourage criticism.

We badly need a membership committee in our branch to keep a constant check on our membership.

". . . The YCL must find such ways, such forms and methods of work as will assure the formation in the capitalist countries of a new type of mass youth organization to which no vital interest of the toiling youth will be alien; an organization which, without copying the Party, will fight for all the interests of the youth, bringing them up in the spirit of the class struggle of proletarian internationalism, in the spirit of Marxism-Leninism."—Dimitroff.

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Transient Relief Low as in 1931

"The country as a whole has reverted to the same low standards in its care for transients that prevailed before the Federal program was instituted in 1931," declared MacEnnis Moore, staff associate of the Travelers' Aid Association visiting San Francisco.

Sportsmanship Will Out Even in Nazi Germany

by Lefty

Twelve thousand Berlin fight fans forgot all about Nazi racial theories and thunderously applauded the Belgian Negro Boxer, Al Beker, even though he lost a 12 round fight to Gustav Eder of Germany.

Baker was floored for a count of three in the second round and again for a count of two in the third but recovered and to spectators and ringside critics apeared to have had the edge. The crowd carried Baker out on its shoulders after booing Eder. The excitement calmed down only when it was announced that Eder had agreed to a return match.

* * *

Here's to the Berkeley High School chapter of the American Student Union. The Union's basketball team recently got new gold and maroon uniforms following a string of victories. The last game in the Berkeley boy's schedule comes off next week with Willard Jr. High School. The game will make or break a perfect record so far.

You Never Can Tell It Might Happen Here

Sit down at Yankee Stadium! With the score tied at 2-2, bases loaded and three men on in the eighth inning of the Yankee-Indian fray here yesterday, Gehrig sat down on the first sack, Tony Lazzeri took a seat at short and Frisco's Di Mag plapped down in the sun spot. The fans in the bleachers unforied a banner and the players yelled it at the top of their lungs, "We Demand Union Recognition."

Now I won't predice that this will happen with the same sureness I predicted a couple of other things. But brethren, you can't never tell.

'Frinstance, last week a group of progressive Congressmen, led by Cannon of Wisconsion introduced legislation which would make the formation of such a union possible. Cannon tried to organize a union of ball players in 1921.

Even the big boys in the game could stand a little solidarity. After all, their playing life is very short, even though the salary is high. But the real need comes from the average apple socker. The baseball owners have a powerful, well greased machine. They waft young players out of sight, into the bushes, or back to the work bench with the greatest of ease and something is badly needed to curb their king-like power.

* * *

Labor Sports Idea Moves Westward

Going West again. The tide of sports fever. First New York, now Cleveland. The YCL in Cleveland called a city wide membership meeting to launch a big spring sports drive.

* * *

Judge Mahoney, new AAU head spoke at the Second Conference of the Labor Sports Federation in New York. He praised the Labor Sports Carnival held annually in New York. And he promised that Americans would take part in the next Olympic Games in Japan, only if we receive an absolute guarantee that the Jepanese government will not mix into the games.

"Point of Order"

A TRADE UNION COLUMN

By Slim

ON THE high road to unionize 5,000,000 workers in steel, auto, textile, rubber, and a host of other basic mass production industries, the Committee for Industrial Organization gets a stab in the back.

The dagger is in the hands of William Green, and behind Green skulk the old craft union reactionaries of the AFL executive council.

The reason was well put by Hugo Ernst, of the Culinary Crafts, last Friday, in the San Francisco Central Labor Council. To protect their high-saiaried jobs, the executive council members are willing to outlaw an organization which has added almost 2,000,000 men and women to the ranks of organized labor.

To that end instructions have gone out from Green which in effect demand the instant expulsion of all CIO unions, and the threat of expulsion of those who in any way express any kind of support for CIO unions.

As the Japanese militarists put it—any organization which "harbors dangerous thoughts."

The Machinists' Union in Santa Monica, which expressed its solidarity with the Douglas strikers, would come under Green's ex-communication edict.

San Francisco, Bakersfield, Sacramento, the Labor Councils in these cities are among those which have given Green a blistering answer—filing his letter.

That action should be taken in every Labor Council which receives the Green letter. The progressive delegates should move to file the letters. This should be followed by resolutions to be sent to the A. F. of L. Executive Council demanding that it rescind the expulsion order.

All locals should take the same action. Messages of solidarity and support from craft union locals to the CIO are in order.

Delegates to city centrals who flout the will of the membership for unity, by voting for Green's letter, should be recalled.

Kindred Spirits

WHAT Green's actions mean to the employers was shown last week when the Carnegie-Illinois Steel company union invited Green to come to Pittsburgh and advise them on how to maintain the company union. Green "respectfully declined," but the invitation still stands. The company unions are quick to recognize a friend.

Strictly Out!

WHOEVER started the idea of forcing the trade unions to incorporate and become legally liable for contracts (the move is actually under way in Washington legislative quarters) is about as original as the Tin Pan Alley song writers who borrow so freely from Beethoven and Bach.

Incorporation of trade unions would go a long way toward fascism. Any such idea is one for labor to step on, and step on hard.

John L. Lewis was quick on the draw when the idea again cropped out recently.

"Those who advocate incorporation of labor unions are those who hope to create a vehicle for destruction of trade unions," said Lewis. As far as organized labor is concerned, the idea is strictly out.

A Tip

WE don't claim to be Walter Winchell, but we've gotten the tip that a stool pigeon named Harris, whose testimony helped convict the Criminal Syndicalism prisoners in Sacramento, is in Grass Valley and Nevada City, and has secured employment in one of the mines.

He has joined the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers. A word to the wise, we are sure, will be sufficient.

CIO Auto Union Tops 200,000

DETROIT—The 200,000 mark in membership was passed with the issuing of March buttons by the United Automobile Workers of America. The occasion found the union going to bat with Chrysler in bargaining conferences, getting well along on negotiations with General Motors and engaged in several sitdown skirmishes with parts manufacturers.

Chrysler Demolished

The Chrysler Works Council (company union) was completely demolished on the first day of negotiations when Richard T. Frankensteen, U.A.W.A. Detroit organization director, presented Chrysler's vice-president, Herman I. Weckler, with the resignations of 103 out of 120 employe representatives to emphasize the union's demand for sole bargaining power. Other demands are straight seniority, 10c an hour wage increases, classification reforms and reduction of hours to 30 a week before layoffs.

CIO TUNNEL UNION DOES FAST WORK

Expect Parker Dam 100% Union in Few Weeks

By a Tunnel Worker

BANNING—With the newly elected officers, Local 270 of Tunnel, Subway and Acqueduct Workers is away to a flying start. The brothers are rallying behind Local 270 with the greatest of confidence in the history of organized labor.

Organizer Hancock reports there are 325 paid up members in the Indio Sub-Local of 270. Also there are a great number of men waiting for pay day.

100% in Few Weeks

Brother Hancock passed through Banning on his way to Parker Dam, where the organizing of the dam is under way. He is doing wonderful work. Local 270 extends hearty congratulations, and hopes the good work never stops. It is reported Parker Dam will be 100% organized in a few weeks.

Organizer Gately of Local 270, in Los Angeles, reports the L. A. Sub-Local of Locals 270 and 279 is doing much better than expected. It is reported Brother Gately is advancing on the Blue Diamond, where there are 700 unorganized men. Local 270 wishes Brother Gately the greatest of success, and wishes to remind him it is behind him 100 per cent.

Local 270's newly-appointed organizer, Brother Brown, stepped into the harness like an old veteran and is planning a sub-local in the great center of the Fascist-minded Riverside. Local 270 is expecting great work of Brother Brown, who will surely do his part in making this branch of the industrial unions one of the greatest in the USA.

After Banning Demands

The International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, branch of the CIO, is doing its part in making the USA safe for honest democracy—one for all, and all for one.

Step Toward Rank & File Control, Oil

RODEO—Local 326, Oil Workers' Union, unanimously endorsed a resolution favoring election of district councilmen by referendum in the districts where they are to serve.

It happens that District Councilman Jim Coulter (who certainly was not elected by any referendum) was present, and Brother Jim said absolutely nothing, for a very good reason. But Jim's position is now very clear, because he strenuously opposed it the following Sunday when it was presented to the district council meeting at Bakersfield. The rank and file of the California locals is yet to be heard from. If the policy is to be adopted, it will be done at the next International Convention at Kansas City in June. In the meantime, the local voted to send copies of the resolution to all California locals.

Jim's Hands Full

The reason why Brother Jim didn't oppose the resolution was that he was having his hands full selling the local, by a small majority, on the idea of taking in the workers on the Fleur Co. Construction job at Oleum. He reported that the company had a good agreement all ready to sign.

He also said it was the CIO and International Oil Workers' Policy, but the CIO heretofore has been too busy taking in workers who couldn't be organized in craft unions to get into any jurisdictional fights.

Later the building trades put a picket line around the job.

We will soon see what kind of an agreement Coulter got with Union Oil Company.

The local also endorsed the national drive to organize the oil industry, and reaffirmed its confidence in the CIO.

Why Labor Would End Courts' Dictatorship

LABOR'S NON-PARTISAN LEAGUE EXECUTIVE TELLS WHAT IS AT STAKE FOR ORGANIZED LABOR

Nine Old Men Are 'Constitutionally' Averse To Any and All Legislation Which Would Better Conditions of Organized Labor

By E. L. OLIVER, Executive Vice-President Labor's Non-Partisan League

WASHINGTON—Reform of the federal judiciary is an immediate and vital necessity to the working people of America. The living and working conditions of millions of people during the next decade—perhaps during the next generation—will depend upon the outcome of the effort now being made by President Roosevelt to modernize the courts.

This is the fundamental issue, and upon this ground the question should be decided. Our workers know that the palsied hands of men, appointed to our courts by Presidents long since dead or discredited, have blocked every effort to deal with our national economic problems through federal legislation—and the workers are increasingly determined that this blockade must be ended.

The 200 Who Control

What are our national problems? The greatest of all is the poverty of our workers. Poverty caused by cut-throat industrial competition; poverty caused by the helplessness of the farmer in marketing his products; poverty caused by the helplessness of the industrial worker in the face of opposition to his organization; poverty caused by the aggressive, insistent demand for increased power and wealth by the 200 men who control American industry.

The supreme court has held that the Federal Government does not have the power, constitutionally, to protect the people of the country; we are delivered over to the banking, steel, automobile, textile, oil, food, and other large corporations, if the decisions of the supreme court are allowed to stand.

The lines have thus been clearly drawn. If we are to preserve the right of self-government, and if we are to protect ourselves from the inhumanity and outright piracy of our powerful industrial and financial corporations, we must find a way over, around, or through these supreme court decisions.

It should be understood, first of all, that the supreme court very rarely interprets the constitution. That document says nothing about minimum wages, or maximum hours, or processing taxes—or about most of the issues passed upon by the chief justice and his associates. For many years, the court has been principally engaged in interpreting its own past decisions, applying them as binding precedents to new situations, with little, if any, reference to what the constitution actually says.

The Nine Old Men

The judge's decision is therefore no better than the judge. Our laws are being vetoed not because their provisions are opposed to the constitution, but because a majority of the supreme court members are themselves "constitutionally" opposed to the legislation. The personal constitutions of those judges are more significant than the intentions of the men who adopted the constitution of the United States. And there is nothing in the history of most of the nine old men now members of the court to justify the American people in believing that the attitudes of these gentlemen are a satisfactory substitute for representative democratic government.

And labor knows this oligarchy—knows it well. These federal courts have never hesitated to legislate against labor, in the form of injunctions which broke every effort to improve wages and working conditions, and which perpetuated and strengthened industrial serfdom. Labor knows these judges, and the judicial system. To speak to American workers or their leaders about dictatorship by the President is a waste of breath. The real dictatorship, the one from which labor has been desperately striving to escape for nearly 50 years, is the dictatorship by the federal courts.

We have not much time to curb that dictatorship, if we are to escape new and greater calamities than those which overtook us in 1929. Wages are today lagging behind production, millions of workers are on the streets who should be at work. Unless a federal legislative program can be enacted quickly, to assist in raising wages, to tackle this problem of unemployment, to permit labor organization—and to give to the farmers the assistance they so desperately need—we are headed straight into another major economic catastrophe, with the last one not yet out of sight.

The supreme courts as at present constituted, will almost certainly prevent any labor, humanitarian, or farmer legislation. We must end judicial dictatorship in America. The President's program is the first step.

GOING PLACES IN SANTA ANA

Union Movement Is Making Headway

SANTA ANA—The trade union movement here is beginning to grow. Within the last few days two new locals have been set up. Due to work of organizers from Long Beach, the Butchers and the Culinary Alliance have been able to organize a group of workers.

The Culinary workers have already succeeded in signing up one cafe and are spreading out among the other cafes in town. The restaurant that has signed up is Shockley's, on East 4th St., in Santa Ana. With the assistance of the workers other shops will undoubtedly be brought into line.

The Butchers also intend to organize the town 100 per cent and then branch out into the other towns in Orange County. They urge that all butchers get in touch with them and sign up as soon as possible.

Teamsters Sign

At their last meeting the Teamsters signed up 15 new members and are getting new applications every day. Their local has grown from a very small group last summer to a strong union with over 200 members at the present time.

With these stirrings in the labor movement in Orange County, it looks as if there will be a strong group of unions here in a short time. This will surely be so if these unions give assistance to the agricultural workers, as these thousands of workers must be the backbone of the labor movement in Orange County.

Machinists Ask San Diego Poll

SAN DIEGO—The International Association of Machinists has filed an election petition with the National Labor Relations Board in an effort to establish its claim of majority representation at the Consolidated Aircraft Corporation in San Diego.

The union claims a majority of the 3,000 employees of the company.

They Risked Their Lives in Epidemic; Here's The Reward

LOS ANGELES — Glaring charges of negligent cruelty have been flung at Los Angeles county by James B. Agnew, member of the 1936 grand jury, who exposed the bitter plight of 155 nurses stricken with infantile paralysis while fighting the 1934 epidemic that swept through the General Hospital.

Those nurses today are helpless invalids—due entirely, the grand jury report declares, to the miserable failure of the county adequately to care for them.

In his nine-page report which covers extensive investigation, Agnew further charges that the nurses, instead of receiving proper treatment in the General Hospital, have been placed in sanitariums where "insanitary, unmodern, and inadequate conditions.

LEADS DRIVE



VAN BITTNER, in charge of the CIO drive to organize steel in the Chicago-Great Lakes district, which takes in the great steel mills of Gary.

RAILWAY UNIONS ASK PROBE OF S. P. HOSPITAL

Big Four Invite Sacramento Shop Craft Unions

SACRAMENTO — The "Big Four" railroad unions are inviting the shop crafts to participate in action against the Southern Pacific Local Hospital here, investigating the poor treatment afforded patients.

The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, the Brotherhood of Railway Conductors and Sutter Lodge 340, Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, sent a joint invitation to the following interested locals:

Electricians, Blacksmiths, Machinists, Sheet Metal Workers, Boilermakers, Moulders.

Sloppy Treatment

Delegates from the unions will collect data to present to a Northern California meeting of shop unions and "Big Four" unions, to be held in San Francisco in the near future. The San Francisco meeting will select a committee to file protests with Dr. Coffee, head doctor in this district for the Southern Pacific Railway.

Railroad workers describe the local hospital in Sacramento as a place where they wouldn't choose to go to have a cut finger dressed. Also, workers desiring treatment have to go during their regular working hours, thereby losing pay.

An Oil Field That Needs Tackling

LONG BEACH — Before the Central Labor Council here, Delegate Gahan of the International Longshoremen's Association called attention of the Oil Workers Union to the deplorable condition of the Wilmington Oil Field.

It is located right in the harbor area, and is the only open shop spot around there. The waterfront workers do not like it and offer aid in organizing the field.

There have been no failures drilled in this field. The city of Los Angeles issued 56 drilling permits a few days before. It is going to be a very active field.

Wants More Signers To Repeal Oakland Anti-Picketing Law

By a Worker Correspondent

OAKLAND—I wanted to sign the petition putting on the ballot the anti-picketing law repeal, and went to the Labor Temple.

The man in charge at the entrance had not read the petition nor heard of it, nor showed any interest in the matter whatever. A copy should be kept there, and every union man asked to sign, regardless of how few signatures are legally necessary. Every signer is a potential vote. My union is not represented in the central Labor Council. Can't some delegate bring this up at the next meeting? More interest is required if the law is to be repealed.

I. L. A. LOCAL 38-79 & THE NINE OLD MEN

Longshoremen Back Change Proposed On High Court

SAN FRANCISCO—ILA Local 38-79 is alive to political issues that are of vital importance to labor. Proof of it is again offered in the resolution passed by it on the Supreme Court—which ILA 38-79 asks other unions to adopt:

WHEREAS: President Roosevelt has proposed that Congress pass legislation calling for the resignation of all Supreme Court judges over the age of 70, and in the event that any of the judges over the age of 70 refuse to resign, empowering the President of the United States to increase the number of judges in the Supreme Court one for every judge over 70, and

The Nine Old Men

WHEREAS: The Nine Old Men of the United States Supreme Court have, in direct opposition to the will of the majority of the people of the United States, rendered reactionary, anti-labor decisions which nullified social, progressive, and labor legislation passed by Congress, thereby usurping the democratic rights of the people of this country for which our forefathers fought and died, and betraying the principle of an American Government of the people, by the people, and for the people, and

WHEREAS: The forces of reaction, for which the American people showed their contempt when they returned President Roosevelt to office by an overwhelming majority, are rallying behind the Supreme Court and intend to use it as a means to force their anti-labor, reactionary, selfish, un-American will upon this country, and

WHEREAS: Labor's Non-Partisan League, headed by Bro. John L. Lewis and George L. Berry, is calling upon all the forces of labor and progress to unite on President Roosevelt's program of Supreme Court Reform, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That this local go on record as endorsing President Roosevelt's proposed reform of the United States Supreme Court as a step toward stopping judicial dictatorship in this country, and be it further

RESOLVED: That we immediately communicate with our Senators and Congressmen, instructing them to back up President Roosevelt's program for Supreme Court Reform, and be it further

RESOLVED: That copies of this resolution be sent to President Roosevelt and the Supreme Court.

Long Beach Meet For Tom Mooney

LONG BEACH—First meeting of the Long Beach AFL Committee for the Freedom of Mooney and Billings will be held this Sunday, March 14, in the Labor Temple Auditorium.

Motion pictures of the prison life of Mooney and Billings will be shown. The meeting is open to the public.

Pedro Warehousers Begin to Take Negro Workers into Union

LOS ANGELES—Establishing a strong basis of solidarity between Negro and white workers, the Warehousemen's Union in San Pedro for the first time has taken a Negro worker into its membership.

In one of the warehouses in San Pedro, a Negro had worked for 16 years. When the warehouse was organized by the union, Local 38-119, a Negro worker was signed up with the rest of his brother workers.

LABOR SUPPORT



HUGH DE LACEY, who was fired as an instructor by the University of Washington, because of labor sympathies. He ran for Seattle city councilman on the Commonwealth Federation ticket, and labor elected him

MARINE UNIONS SPONSOR TOUR BY L. SIMPSON

Speaks At Dreamland and Meet in San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO—Lawrence Simpson, American seaman released from a Nazi jail after a campaign of protest from this country, will speak at Dreamland Auditorium here on the night of April 7.

Now on a nation-wide tour, he will spend three days, April 5, 6 and 7, in San Francisco.

Under the auspices of Maritime Federation District Council No. 2 and the International Labor Defense a conference in preparation for the visit and mass meeting was scheduled for March 8, with 40 organizations invited.

At this time a broad sponsoring committee was expected to be set up.

New Oil Local is Formed at Fellows

LONG BEACH—Local 128, Oil Workers, voted to bring President Harvey Fremming to Long Beach to negotiate with Wilshire Oil Company. The workers expect to get an agreement for the closed shop and the check-off.

It may be a coincidence, but our secretary did not read the resolution from Seminole, Okla., local, which reached other locals in California.

Seminole, which recently conducted a sitdown strike, condemn-ing Freming for the way in which he conducted negotiations there. They were convinced that the union was in a position to get a much better agreement than the one he signed.

New Fellows Local

A new local has been formed near Fellows, to be named Midway Local. Forty charter members and 50 applications are reported. From Venice 30 applications have been received and Organizer Calloway predicts a membership of 100 to 150 in the vicinity shortly.

Calloway so far has not been able to make any definite showing in territory close to Long Beach where Fremming and Coulter are best known, but a giant mass meeting with Organizer Dalrymple of the CIO as Speaker is scheduled March 11.

The local is growing, with a membership now around 1300.

Arguing that we need membership, not money, and that the defense fund is a bad move, Jim Coulter now proposes to use this fund to finance organizers. The $1000 set aside in this fund January 1 has already grown to $1500 since $1 has been added to it from each initiation fee and 10 cents from each month's dues payment.

We can organize and have a defense fund too. Both are necessary. Brother Coulter is evidently afraid that a large defense fund will make the membership harder for him to control.

BURON FITTS GETS STINGING SLAP BY LABOR

For His Action In Arresting 345 Douglas Men

If all labor organizations took the steps that the Maritime Federation District Council No. 2, San Francisco, and the San Francisco Labor Council took, then men like Buron Fitts might think twice before arresting sit-down strikers, as was done in the Douglas Aircraft strike.

Here's the stinging resolution passed by the above bodies (the Contra Costa Labor Council passed a similar resolution):

WHEREAS: It has been brought to the attention of District Council No. 2 of the Maritime Federation that 345 Douglas Aircraft sit-down strikers were arrested in Santa Monica, and

WHEREAS: These strikers are making the supreme effort and sacrifices toward bettering their conditions and for the right of collective bargaining and to belong to an organization of their own choosing, and

WHEREAS: These men now on strike are up against one of the biggest corporations within the aircraft industry, the Douglas Corporation, which has refused to give consideration to the workers, thus resulting in the present strike, and

WHEREAS: We find the office of District Attorney Buron Fitts in Los Angeles County lined up against the strikers, as shown by his ordering the arrest of 345 strikers, and

WHEREAS: Governor Merriam has endorsed the action of District Attorney Fitts, and

WHEREAS: District Attorney Fitts did this even though he had been endorsed in the elections by the Los Angeles Central Labor Council and by District Council No. 4 of the Maritime Federation in San Pedro. Therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That District Council No. 2 of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific go on record strongly protesting and condemning such action of District Attorney Buron Fitts, and Governor Merriam, and be it further

RESOLVED: That copies of this resolution be mailed to all District Councils of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific, and to all Central Labor Councils in California for concurrence, and be it lastly

RESOLVED: That copies of this resolution be sent to District Attorney Buron Fitts, and to Governor Merriam.

Steel Labor Urges Bill Green to Quit

GARY, Ind. — Resignation of William Green as president of the American Federation of Labor was called for by leaders of 37 lodges of the Amalgamated Assn. of Iron, Steel & Tin Workers, meeting here in district convention.

In a letter to Green the steel local leaders accused the AFL head and the executive council of "taking the position of strike-breakers."

"Sometime ago you and your council suspended from the AFL a number of national and international unions — not for any harm done to organized labor, but just because they undertook to assist to organize the unorganized masses in the basic industries of the nation," the letter said.

"Now according to press reports, again you and your council have opposed the making of a contract between the General Motors Corp. and the United Automobile Workers of America. The conduct of the council and yourself proves beyond any question of doubt that while in the past you have been a group of reactionaries, you are now taking the position of scab-herders."

NEW LIFE AND ACTIVITY WAKING UP SACRAMENTO LABOR MOVEMENT

SACRAMENTO—The March 2nd meeting of the Sacramento Federated Trades Council took action on several measures of a progressive nature.

Committee of Five

In accordance, with a resolution passed at the previous meeting favoring the establishment of a committee of five to act as a committee for the promotion of a Labor Party, Brothers Bingman, Smith, Patton, Dudley and Titus were elected.

The committee will contact local unions and other progressive organizations to gain support for this movement for independent political action by labor in Sacramento. The committee is instructed to hold a delegated conference not later than May 30th.

This move aims at bringing Sacramento labor directly and openly on the field of political action in the fall elections. Assemblyman Gannon, who promised full support to labor in pre-election speeches, was sharply condemned by the Council for his absolute failure to live up to his promises.

The Trades Council reaffirmed its full support of President Roosevelt's measures affecting the Supreme Court. The Council will contact local Congressmen requesting their cooperation.

Congressman Buck was criticized by President Ennis for his failure to support Roosevelt's program. Desmond, local member of the legislature, voted against the resolution (legislature) supporting Roosevelt.

The new life and activity that is waking up the Sacramento Labor movement was demonstrated by the report of Dixon of the Culinary Workers. The Culinary Unions, in cooperation with other involved crafts, are making an energetic drive to unionize Sacramento establishments. Good progress is reported.